



TOP OF THE HILL



Volume 16

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Atlanta: Food, Friends, and Fun

The Georgia Aquarium and the World of Coke

By John Triplett

The first places the eighth graders went on the Atlanta trip were the World of Coke and Georgia Aquarium. The World of Coke was first. The World of Coke was a huge museum/symposium of Coca-Cola's history, the way it's made, and all the little secrets behind it. First was the Coca-Cola loft in which there was an explanation of what's what, rules, etc. The loft was filled with lots of different types of Coke stuff from old bottles, advertisements, plates, and refrigerators to Coke mascots. It was a very interesting part of the tour because of all the old relics and things of Coca-Cola's history. Next



Nathan Roberts in the World of Coke



was the Happiness Factory Theater in which we watched a movie on what happens when money goes into the vending machine and magic happens. This movie was animated and included a broad cast of different characters that had all different types of personalities, appearances, and jobs. It was a unique and interesting part of the museum. After the movie, we were released to explore the rest of the exhibits. One option was Coca-Cola connections in which we got to hear how famous people's lives were changed or affected by Coca-Cola. After that I went to Milestones of Refreshment. This area included different Coke machines, old bottles and advertisements, different games, and an old-fashioned Coca-Cola bar. After that I attended Bottle Works in which I saw every single step in the making of Coca-Cola from the bottles to packaging, etc. It was a good but not great part of the museum. Then I traveled upstairs to the Secret 4-D Formula Theater. In this attraction, we searched for the secrets to the Coca-Cola formula with an eccentric scientist and his assistant. We took an adventure in

this attraction, and the moving seats and other special effects made for a good event. Later, I traveled to the Pop Culture Gallery in which Coke was shown as an icon in pop culture. This included works

from a variety of different artists, and it allowed you to share your own unique Coke story. Next was the Perfect Pauses Theater where there were mini movies that showed all different kinds of Coca-Cola advertisements over the years. It was interesting to see all the diverse types of ads from various parts of the world. Next was the attraction that was the most-visited and, in my opinion, the best of the museum which was Taste. In this part of the museum, we tasted a wide variety of different Coca-Cola beverages from around the world. This included a big area that had all the different types of Coca-Cola products from all of the continents. One of the drinks Coke is famous for is its Beverly from Italy. From all the hype about this drink, I thought it would taste great, but personally, along with most of my classmates, I thought it was a bad-tasting, over-hyped drink. Lastly, the gift shop had a good selection of merchandise, but it was all overpriced. Overall, the World of Coke was pretty good, and it made for fun but not the

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best part of the trip.

The next activity on the trip was the Georgia Aquarium. This was just a short walk away from World of Coke. Once in the aquarium, we got our tickets, and then we were free to explore. There were many different parts of the aquarium that included a few touching pools, a river section, a tropical waters section, a dolphin show section, a cold-water section, and an ocean voyager area.

In the Cold Water section, I saw beluga whales, sea otters, octopuses, and some other interesting animals. In the voyager section, I saw a big variety of sharks, rays, and other big fish.

While in the tropical waters section, I saw clown fish, jellyfish, and a large number of small colorful animals that live in warm waters around the world. During my time in the rivers section, I observed lots of different catfish, smaller fish, and other aquatic animals such as frogs and turtles. Next was the dolphin show, and unfortunately, I did not get to see this section, so I have no knowledge of whether it was good or bad. Of all these areas the one I enjoyed most was the touching pools. It was quite interesting to feel the different types of rays, sharks, and fish and see how they reacted to our touch. In my opinion, it was one of the best parts of the aquarium. The other

parts of the aquarium were interesting but not outstanding. One thing that was really attractive was all of the different kinds of fish and animals. I thought the aquarium was a good part of the trip, but not great.



Male Whale Shark at the Georgia Aquarium

Andretti vs Mad Mad Whirled

By Kang Huh

On the Atlanta trip, the 8th graders had the pleasure of going to two different arcade havens: Andretti Indoor Karting and Mad Mad Whirled. On the first night, we went to Andretti, a modern arcade with more recent accommodations like mini bowling, efficient arcade games, and best of all, go-karting. Not only did they have good games, they had excellent food. The decent tacos Andretti offered were enough to keep everyone energized for the long, long night.

To begin, I have to say that go-karting was undoubtedly the best activity. When driving, you could feel the wind blowing and your adrenaline rushing. That is, until you were finished. Some students, including myself, were kicked out because of our refusal to step on the brakes. My situation was that I could not see the brake due

to my helmet and merely crashed into the barrier. I also got to enjoy some awesome games such as the myriad of racing games, the various shoot-'em-up games, and the prize-winning games. The most popular to watch were the prize-winning games.

As fellow 8th grader Wren McFadden described it, these games were a rip off, and you literally had to pay the same price of the object you're playing for to win it--maybe more. I can also recount David Bright saying, "Kang, don't do it! I wasted \$25 on that stupid machine!" Despite their reviews, these games were still fun to watch, although they were rigged (just a little). Once you were finished with the main attractions, you were permitted to do anything in Andretti. So that meant unlimited games! Even though some may describe the games as not as satisfying as *Call of Duty*,



Kang Huh and Harry Stewart at the Andretti Arcade

they were good enough to last a couple hours. The worst part of the event was when we had to leave.

On the last day of the trip, we went to Mad Mad Whirled with high spirits. Sadly, when we walked in, we only saw an outdated, empty gaming hall straight out of an '80s movie. On top of that, the person at the counter was overbearingly annoying. She would always scream at us even when we were listening to her instructions. However, when she was finished talking, we immediately crowded the few arcade games that worked.

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Many went to the only available ticket obtainable game, which was quite easy and quickly rendered ticketless. On top of that, the lady at the counter would not even restock the machine! So, in my case, I went to play Tekken 2 by myself. Soon after, Ethan Yappen, James Throckmorton, and Wesley Tseng joined me on the machine, and we found ourselves having a tournament. That being said, I guess I had fun. However, half of the machines didn't even work or had no tickets in them. So far, Mad Mad Whirled was a disappointment for most. However, there were other activities besides the arcade games, like laser tag and whirly ball. Laser tag, was by far the worst part of Mad Mad Whirled, as it was a converted movie theater made into a laser tag course.

Also, some people thought it would be funny to go 'melee' on others and started going 'hardcore' by pushing and punching. Trust me; it wasn't that funny. However, whirly ball, was the most fun of all of the activities. It was a combination of lacrosse, basketball, and bumper cars. However, the cars were hard to drive, and not necessarily the easiest to use, and if you didn't throw the ball hard enough, it didn't count when you hit the back board. In this game too, some thought it would be funny to go 'pro' and use their lacrosse-esque stick as a knife--not cool guys. As you can probably see, I obviously favor Andretti over Mad Mad Whirled. I don't know, Mad Mad Whirled overall is a really sketchy place,



John Tipps and Jess Darnell on the go-kart track.

like something Andretti would have been, say, in the '50s? Then again, our generation lives in the 21st century, and most of the things we enjoy are modern technologies such as the ones at Andretti. However, I have to give some points to Mad Mad Whirled for the nostalgic effect. Anyway, I think for most of us, Andretti was the overall favorite arcade.

Paintball: A Fantastic Experience

By William Richardson

On the glorious morning of Thursday, April 21, the 8th grade class donned paintball-appropriate attire, threw down a quick continental breakfast, and boarded the bus for a 40 minute drive to the grounds of Paintball Atlanta which was the venue for the ensuing paintball battles. Upon arrival at the battlefields, each class member filled out a waiver (always the sign of a good day to come) in exchange for a marker, paintballs, and a mask - the only protection from the colorful projectiles. As the class filled their hoppers, put on their masks, and split into teams, the anxiety of the upcoming

battles could be felt throughout the group. Some had the meager protection of t-shirts, while other team members had on thick sweatshirts in an attempt to ease the sting of the paintballs. The teams filed in to their respective fields/sides, and the pre-battle speeches were made by each referee to the team which they were "commanding." Once the call, "three, two, one, go, go, go!" was heard, teams from each side raced toward shelter closer to the opposing side. The object of the first five games was to attain the flag and advance it to the enemy's base without being hit. This goal, as challenging as it sounds, was actually accomplished many times throughout the day. Even the brave teachers (Coach McMurray, Coach Brock, and Mr. Bullington) took to the fields for a chance at revenge on bad students.

After a morning of headshots, bruises, involuntary paint-eating, and friendly-fire buzzkills (ask Michael Milam how those feel), it was time for

some pizza and soda. This lunch was just enough to give the boys energy for the final three games. As the second half of the day approached, the concern was no longer on pain, but on ammunition. Many people were desperate enough to pick up ammo from the ground and use it in battle. The final field, the woods, was the site of the grade-wide battle of epic proportions. The object of the game was to capture the flag at the other team's base, bring it back to the base, and defend the flag from the other team for the remainder of the 30 minute game. The orange team captured the flag and successfully defended it, giving them the final victory.

Paint-covered, sweaty, and exhausted, the boys turned in gear and boarded the bus to return to the LaQuinta Inn. The class cleaned up and "swagged-up" for the Braves game which they were to attend later that evening. The long day of paintball was a success and the highlight of the trip for many.

ATLANTA

Nothing Beats a Braves Game!

By Aaron Kaplan

After a day of battling on the paintball field, the MBA eighth graders eagerly took the bus to Turner Field, the home of the Atlanta Braves. Due to the lack of a Major League Baseball team in Nashville, this outing was highly anticipated. The matchup was between the Atlanta Braves and the Florida Marlins. We were seated in the outfield (a prime location for catching homerun balls – more on that later).

Because of our early arrival, we all had time to do what we pleased, whether it was catching baseballs from the Marlins' backup outfielder or wandering around the very expensive souvenir shop, where hats were the main seller.

With frozen lemonades in hand, we settled in, and the game began. We were treated to a very exciting first inning. The Marlins scored three runs in the top of the first. The Braves answered, scoring four, one of which



was a homerun by Braves catcher Brian McCann. The first inning was followed by a homerun from the Marlins' Gaby Sanchez, which went sailing into the Big Red Outfield. No one caught it at first, and it bounced back onto the field. A Marlins outfielder threw it back into the stands to our very own Mene Zua. The score was 5-4; the Marlins leading after the third. The excitement died down for a while after the Braves' Dan Uggla hit a homerun in the bottom of the fourth.

Most, if not all eighth graders, got something to eat. Whether it was something from McCann's Burgers, Chick-fil-A, or another similar ballpark venue, everyone was satisfied, having had their share of sugar and grease. There is no better combination.

Innings five and six were uneventful. In other words, there were a lot of tomahawk chops*, in which MBA eighth graders participated

avidly. Meanwhile, an attempt at "the wave" was tried. When approached with the idea of doing a wave, some of the Big Red Outfield claimed to not know what this widespread phenomenon was, being from Tennessee. We still did our best in throwing our arms up as the wave director ran by us. The idea is for as many people to participate, creating an incredible ballpark-wide sight, but our attempt reached no further than a few sections.

After a Marlins' score in the seventh inning, the score was 6-5 (Marlins) at the beginning of the ninth. The Big Red was tensed and excited, pulling for the Braves to get the win. Although the Braves held the Marlins to no score in the top, the Braves failed to score with a final grounder by Martin Prado, who got out at first.

Although the Braves lost 5-6, the experience was definitely worth the while. Everyone had a great time in celebrating the beginning weeks of the MLB season.

*Tomahawk chops – The crowd waves their arms to music in a chopping motion like tomahawks. The tomahawk is the Braves' team symbol.

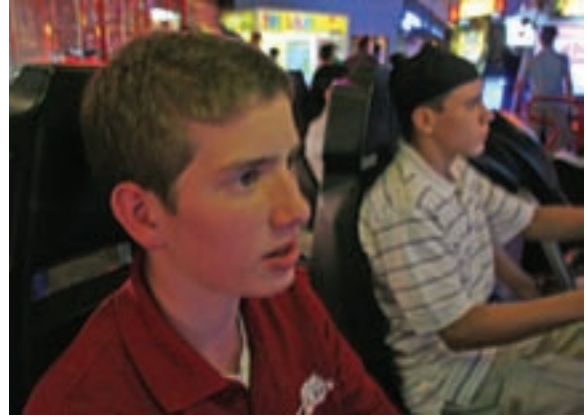


George Hite, Mac Mackey, Coach Brown, and Stephen Sullivan occupy the "Woolsey Seat" during the Braves game at Turner Field

ATLANTA



Who is that masked man?



Reid Parker and Austin Rolfe



Kirkland Mawae, Turner Smith, and Michael Milam



*Gregory Quesinberry won the
"Worst Wound Award" in paintball.*

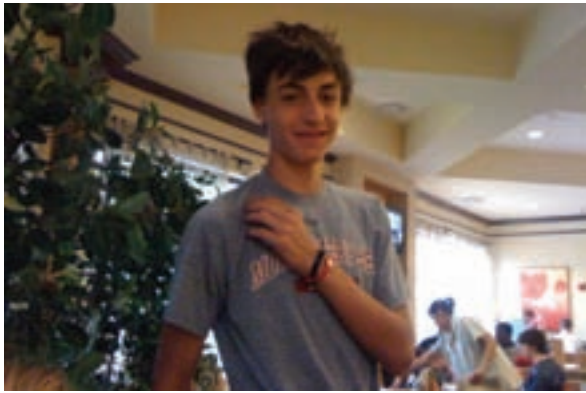


*Laser Tag: Luke and Ryan Barrick, Luke Bullock,
Cortland Owens, and Nathan Sharp*



*The Early Risers: Ryan Barrick, Michael Lacey,
Jackson McCaskill, and CJ Sanders*

ATLANTA



MC Poe won the "Bedhead Award" for the trip.



Stephen Ray, Turner Smith, and Stephen Sullivan



Game On!!



James Throckmorton



Gregory Quesinberry and Wesley Tseng



*Jeylan Dunigan, Hunter Wims, Mike Lacey,
DJ Goodman, and Akeim George*

ON THE HILL

Dodgeball: The Battle of Epic Proportions

By Kang Huh

Throughout the third quarter, the 7th and 8th graders partook in an official Junior School-wide dodgeball tournament like last year. Unlike last year, however, “10” was the lucky number, as the two Team 10s from each grade challenged each other to the final matchup, deciding the superior grade. Both teams were exceptional after many challenges, some rigorous, some a walk through the park. In the end, it was the 7th grade captain Richard Scherrer and his team that challenged the powerful 8th grade team, led by their captain, Robertson Fowler. The match was intense. There was a rally of foam balls soaring across the gym, and spectators screaming on each side. Finally, the 8th grade team’s players

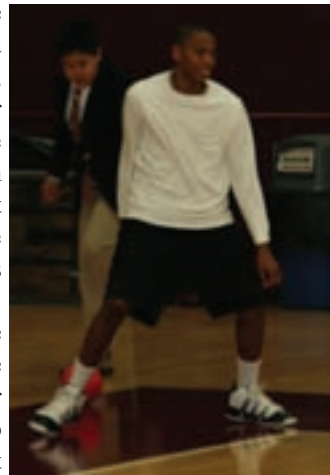


were whittled down from about eight to three, giving the 7th graders the upper hand. The 8th graders, however, made the match even more of a challenge by evening out the mancount on each team. The game was really tense now. The cheering and screaming got even louder, and the students on the bleachers stomped their feet. The real fight had only begun. The 7th graders, however, seemed to be going to win for a while, until all of the balls on their side disappeared. Then the onslaught of the 8th grade team began. A downpour of bright red balls was raining from the ceiling, and the 7th graders were weeded out one by one. Overall, it was the 8th grade team’s aggression that made them pull through to beat their opponents. What happened to the 7th graders, you might ask? The 7th grade team was pummeled by the wrath of the

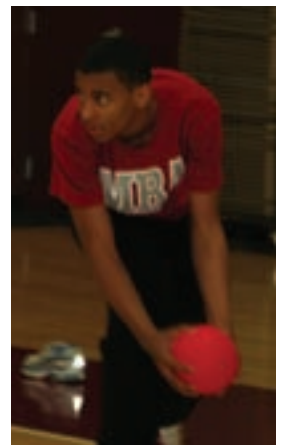
8th graders’ ballistic missiles, and sadly, could not withstand the rally of balls traveling at high speeds. Congratulations to the 8th grade’s Team 10, and savor your glory!



Jackson Sikiberg

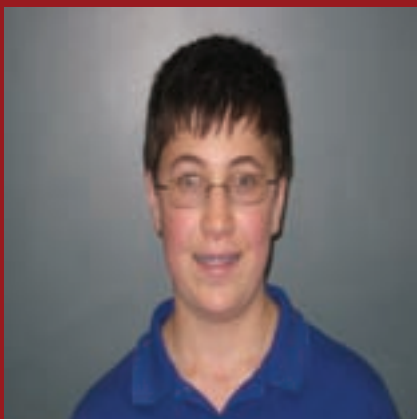


Jordan Wilson



Braxton Blackwell

2011-12 Honor Council Representatives



Aaron Kaplan



Richard Thornton



Gray Adelman

ON THE HILL

Science Olympiad Regionals Division B-A Blazing Victory

By Richard Scherrer

Although it is a little late for a Regionals Science Olympiad article when the state championship has already happened, our first place at regionals is not to be ignored. We swept the competition of Harpeth Hall, St. Bernard, and Brentwood Middle to land a first place at regionals.

On February 19 we all loaded into a bus and started toward Lipscomb. The bus ride to Lipscomb was tense and anxious, as we quickly studied our notes and hoped our builds would not break on the way there. When we got there, we were assigned a homeroom



*Sam Papel, Michael Milam, and
Matt Miccioli*



2010-2011 Science Olympiad Regional Champs!

conveniently close to a vending machine (did you know the vending machines at Lipscomb sell chitlins?). As there was some space between events, we had time to relax and play computer games in any unused time blocks. Lunch was Chick-Fil-A for most, and then we had to hurry back to more events. After finishing all of our events, we sat around for a couple of minutes before the awards ceremony. In the awards ceremony, we found that we had won four bronzes, six silvers, and an impressive total of twelve golds. The events that we participated in were Anatomy, Disease Detectives, Ecology, Microbe Mission, Ornithology (the study of birds), Dynamic Planet, Fossils, Meteorology, Road Scholar, Solar System, Can't Judge a Powder, Crime Busters, Optics, Shock Value, Storm the Castle, Battery Buggy, Bottle Rocket, Junkyard Challenge, Towers, Awesome Aquifers, Compute This, Experimental Design, and Write It Do It. The team was composed of four ninth graders (Kalyan Chadalavada, Sam Hurd, Tarun Mallipeddi, and Sam Papel), seven eighth graders (Harry Stewart, Kang Huh, John Triplett, Matt Miccioli, James Throckmorton, and Michael Milam, and one seventh grader (the author).

For next year, we are recruiting

four soon-to-be eighth graders because currently there are only two soon-to-be eighth graders on the team. Anyone can join as long as they're willing to study, come to the meetings, and do some scientific research. Other than soon-to-be eighth graders, we also need people to do the building events (Storm the Castle, Battery Buggy, Bottle Rocket, Junkyard Challenge, and Towers), because our master builders (Sam Papel and Sam Hurd) are moving into Division C next year. Even if you specialize in a specific type of science, like Fossils, you will probably have to do more events than one, so prepare to study anything from Astronomy to Zoology. Drop on by Dr. Marro's office and join up!



Richard Scherrer and Harry Stewart

ON THE HILL

Science Olympiad State Competition

By Harry Stewart

After winning regionals, there was no rest for the MBA Science Olympiad team. Because first place in regionals means that the team qualified for state, planning started on the bus ride back from regionals. Events were re-assigned based on the event schedule for state, and preparations began once again. The build events were furiously tested, re-tested, and tested some more. Towers were broken, bottle rockets launched, and trebuchets fired, and study sheets were perfected to better our chances of winning state.

Now comes April 1, the day before the competition. The buses have been loaded, and everyone is ready to go to Knoxville for state. Tensions are high, but everybody is excited to be on the way to Knoxville. When the

team arrives at the hotel, roommates are assigned, and then dinner is held at the Outback Steakhouse. As the team settles in for bed, lights-out comes and passes, with most of the team staying up late “studying.”

In the wee hours of the next morning (5:30 AM central), the team got up and had a quick breakfast, half-asleep. The bus ride to UT was dark for the most part, except for sunrise upon arrival. The “home base” was quickly filled with tired teenagers, trying to catch a quick nap before the first event. However, the excitement of the competition kept everyone awake. The day was filled with frantic rushing to events but went off without many problems. The only major mishap occurred when the team for the bottle rocket event forgot their lab goggles and were punished with 100 pushups.

After a hectic day of difficult tests and stress, the award ceremony was finally here. Everyone was on the edge of their seats as the winners of each event were announced, one by one. However, towards the end of the ceremony, the winner was still a close call between Bearden, the 24 out of 25 time winner, and Friendship Christian. While I cannot speak for the rest of the team, I was rooting for the underdog. To my surprise, Friendship Christian won by a small margin, with Bearden as a close second. Also to my surprise, the MBA team came in fourth place, behind Cedar Springs



Ferris Bailey and Kang Huh



John Tipps and James Throckmorton

by only one point (scores were based on place in an event; 1st place is one point, 2nd is two, etc., and lowest score wins).

After the ceremony, the buses were loaded and the trip back to Nashville began. There was already planning for next year. For example, because only five 9th graders can be on the team and there are eight 8th graders, Dr. Marro suggested a battle royal to determine the team members. There was also talk of recruiting strategies for next year's 7th graders.

With another year of hard studying and preparation and another year of experience compiled for the next year, here's hoping for nationals in 2012!



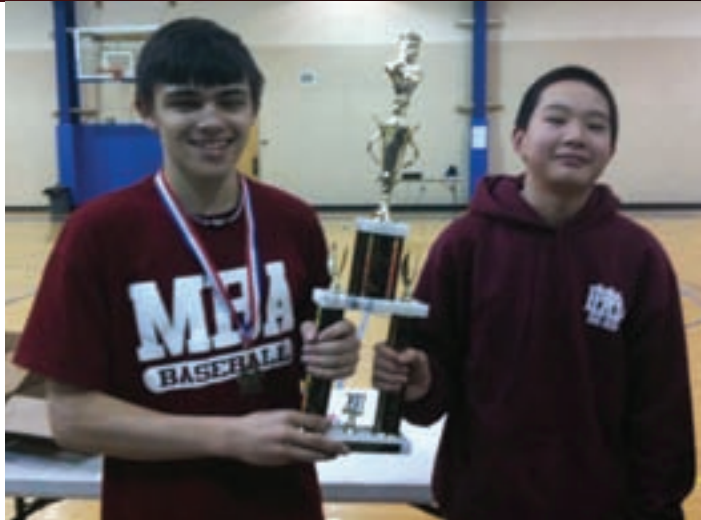
Brinton Hoover

ON THE HILL

Big Red Chess Makes Its Mark

By Alvin Zhang

On March 5, the Big Red chess team won second in a qualifying team tournament hosted at BGA. There were teams that came from all around to compete in this event. Team tournaments are usually very rare (in fact, this was my first team tournament), so there was a lot of competition among schools. In this team tournament, each school could have up to four players, and there were board numbers to indicate where each team member would sit. For example, board 410-1 would be for the top team players on that board; 410-2 would be for the second top team player, etc. At the end of the round, the score would be added for each team (win, 1 point, draw, 0.5 points, and a loss would be nothing), and the team that had the most points would win the round. MBA was in a



Sal Neglia and Alvin Zhang

bad situation to compete because one of our teammates became extremely sick, meaning we were a man down and therefore would automatically lose one game to every team with four people. However, we pulled through and played almost perfectly, with three wins and one loss.

This tournament was an interesting tournament, not only because it was a team tournament, but also because the high school section of the tournament was held in a small classroom. In the first round, MBA faced Montgomery Central, a school from Clarksville, Tennessee. The first

round was critical because if we lost to the weaker team, it would prove that we were incapable of competing with a player down. However, we eventually pulled through, winning on board 1, 2, and 3, and giving our opponents

one point for having an extra person. We also did this for the second round, proving our superiority against the other teams. However, we met our match in round three when we faced a very strong team from Hume Fogg High School. Although they only had three people, they had strong players, as well as luck, on their side. We ended up losing with them

winning two and MBA winning one game. Despite this loss, however, MBA came back and destroyed Ravenwood High by winning all three games. MBA ended up taking second behind Hume Fogg, and in doing so we proved that we could still demolish other teams, despite being short-handed.

Three weeks later, the Big Red chess team traveled to Cookeville, TN, to attend the High School State Finals. Despite being ranked around seventh seed in the tournament, we still did well at the tournament. Even though we were a bit unlucky (we faced and lost to the 1st and 2nd seeded teams), we did pull off victories against Ravenwood High School again and a slightly young USN team. The highlight of the day occurred when Max Werthan, whom we had stacked to play their top player, played Ravenwood's top second player and defeated him handily. Although we pulled seventh place in the tournament and missed the large plastic trophies, which were for the top six teams, we took home a lot of experience. Next year I know the MBA chess team will do much better, because there are a lot of good chess players coming to MBA.



CLASS PROPHECIES

PREDICTIONS FOR THE CLASS OF 2015

Rahn Bailey – CEO of Lids
Parks Ball – Owns Preppy Boy, Inc.
Luke Barrick – Cashier at Lacrosse
Nashville
Ryan Barrick – Soccer dad
Sam Bellet – Secretary of Defense
Braxton Blackwell – Member of the
Harlem Globetrotters
David Bright – Major League Gamer
Chip Brothers – All-American Penn
State wrestler
Louis Brown – Belle Meade Country
Club manager
Anderson Bruehl – Augusta pro shop
floor manager
Luke Bullock – Alligator wrestler
Chris Byrne – PGA Masters champion
Sam Carey – *Ghost Adventure* host
Joseph Coakley – Mall Santa
Seth Cook – Studio bassist
Jess Darnell – Broadway actor
Si Deane – Arena rock revival guitarist
Billy Deutsch – Ensworth baseball coach
Chatham Dobbs – Olympic swimming
gold medalist – breaks Michael Phelps's
record
Jeylan Dunigan – Falconer
Alex Dunn – Quickscope
Chris Estes – Actor on *Jersey Shore*
Wilson Flack – MLB commissioner
Robertson Fowler – Supernanny
Kaden Freeman – Hair stylist
Akeim George – Harvard geography
professor
Alec Giammalvo – Ice cream man
D.J. Goodman – A DJ
Jack Goodrum – Girls volleyball coach
Neal Hawkins – Worker at Bass Pro
Shops

John Hazen – Catholic Mafia
Nicholas Heim – Bollywood movie
director
George Hite – Plastic surgeon
Geoffrey Holland – Golf caddy
Jackson Hughes – NLL lacrosse referee
Kang Huh – Panda Whisperer
George Hunt – Underwear model
Charles Hunter – (classified)
TJ Jefferson – 3-sport professional
athlete
Cole Jones – Has TV show Jones.0
Aaron Kaplan – Sir Esq. PhD. DVM.
MD. DDS. OD. Professor Emeritus
Jake Keen – Hallway wrestler
Tobi Kehinde – Nigerian Prime Minister
Ben Kelly – WWE wrestler
Luke Kinman – Channel 5 news anchor
Mike Lacey – The next Chris Johnson
Bill Leftwich – *River Monsters* host
Jacob Lothers – Artist
Davis Luster – Ice Road Trucker
Billy Lynch – NASCAR flag waver
Mac Mackey – Car collector
Thomas Marosz – Drummer for a Polish
Rush tribute band
Diego Martinez – George Lopez
understudy
Tracey Mathis – U.S. sniper
James Matthews – Mall cop
Kirkland Mawae – *Dancing with The
Stars* 5-time champion
Daniel Maynard – Michael Jackson
impersonator
Jackson McCaskill – Massage therapist
Trice McCullar – Build-a-Bear
Workshop floor manager
Wren McFadden – Audiobook narrator
Joseph McKinney – The next Old Spice
guy
Matt Miccioli – Italian anarchist
Michael Milam – The Most Interesting
Man in the World
Henry Moxley – An underground poet
Grant Myers – Snake charmer
Graham Nash – Kool-Aid spokesman
Devon O'Donnell – LaQuinta Inn
bellhop
James Owen – New character on *Glee*
Cortland Owens – Playwright
Reid Parker – Floor manager of Costco

Will Pearson – Sandal salesman in
California
MC Poe – Professional wedding crasher
Andrew Porter – Chin model
Owen Powell – CEO of Victoria's Secret
Gregory Quesinberry – Olympic Torch
carrier
Stephen Ray – Hockey fighter
Jackson Rich – Mobile bonfire
William Richardson – UNC lacrosse
player
Joshua Rickerman – Daywalker
Nathan Roberts – Mexican dog smuggler
Ross Rochford – *Halo Reach*
cartographer
Henry Rogers – J.T. Moore lacrosse
coach
Austin Rolfe – Frat boy
Ethan Rudolph – Belle Meade traffic cop
C.J. Sanders – Male Hollister model
Nathan Sharp – Next host of *Man vs.
Food*
Tyler Sherman – Stand-up comedian
Turner Smith – Farmer
William Snow – Prime Minister of the
United Kingdom
Blake Solarek – Vegas bartender
Jack Sunday – Weapons specialist
Harry Stewart – Presidential truffle chef
Stephen Sullivan – Zamboni driver
Anthony Swenson – Businessman
Logan Taylor – Pediatrician
Hank Thomas – Headmaster at Nossi
College of Art
Richard Thornton – Owns Carnival Kia
James Throckmorton – Opera performer
John Tipps – Online pajama salesman
Cameron Travis – Swamp person
John Triplett – Owns Genesis Diamonds
Wesley Tseng – Tibetan Monk (Dalai
Lama)
Derrick Tucker – Stockbroker
Derrick Tusie – Professional curler
Hunter Wims – Psychologist
Steve Wood – Tattoo artist
Luke Wooten – Owns recording studio
Ethan Yappen – Sign spinner
Haynes Young – Commentator on *104.5
The Zone*
Mene Zua – Owner of Men's Warehouse

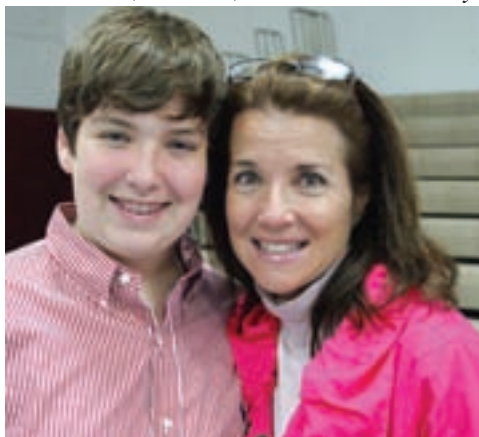
BREAKFAST...



Hunt, Warren, and Mrs. Monteray Smith



Tobi and Mrs. Ronke Kehinde



Seth and Mrs. Kay Cook



Jordan and Mrs. Kimberly Rosdeutscher



Henry and Bronson with their mother, Mrs. Sarah Ingram



Nicholas Heim and his mother, Mrs. Kimberly Ely



Jack and Mrs. Kay Goodrun

WITH MOM



Andrew, Owen, and Mrs. Molly Powell



Jay and Mrs. Laurie Shackelford



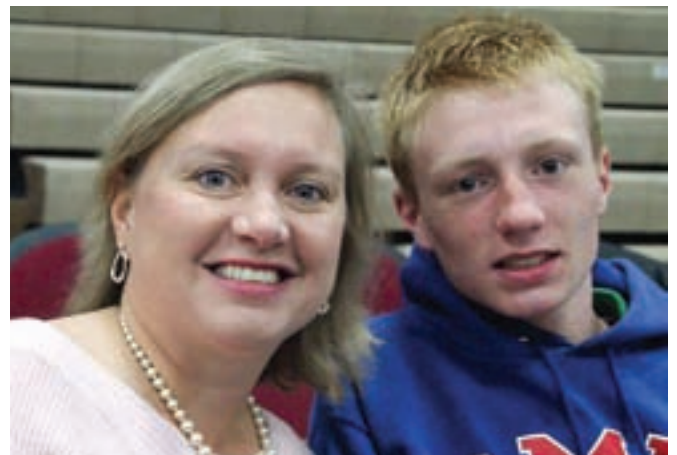
Bronson and Mrs. Meleia Bell



Mathew and Mrs. Angela Robbins



Parker and Mrs. Debbie Bryan



Will and Dr. Robin Pearson

Photos Courtesy of Jamie Tillman

ON THE HILL

So Long, Mr. Woolsey: We Will Miss You!

By Michael Milam

You all know Mr. Woolsey as the kind math teacher who coaches intramurals. Well, he is leaving this year, and it is a very sad occasion. He has done so much for MBA and for the community around us.



You all may know he teaches Algebra I, but there are a lot of things you may not know about Mr. Woolsey. He has done so many things so far in his life that it is unbelievable. I had the privilege of interviewing Mr. Woolsey, and he told me many of the things he has

done since he graduated from high school.

Mr. Woolsey has been teaching at MBA for a remarkable 21 years and has taught at various other schools for 40 years! When he got out of high school, he went to play at the University of Chattanooga on a basketball scholarship and started for two years. He also played baseball and started all four years. He then got to play in the prestigious Cape Cod college summer league and graduated in 1970 from college. Mr. Woolsey might have made it



to the major leagues, but his hopes were set aside when he was drafted into the Vietnam War right out of college. He was active

for one year as a military accountant and he was part of the reserves for six years. After his military experience, he was hired as the assistant coach of basketball at University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and in 1971 went on to be the assistant varsity basketball coach at Baylor. He then moved on to be the head basketball coach at Brookstone School from 1972-1974. From 1974-1976 he was the head baseball and head basketball coach at Lake View Fort Ogelthorpe School. In 1976, he coached at Chattanooga State Community College.

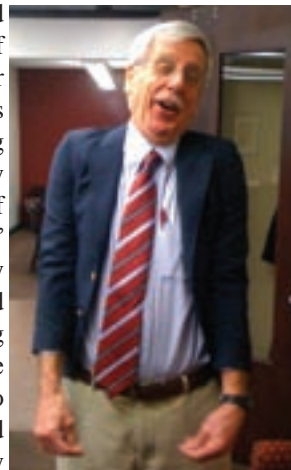
After this fascinating career as a coach and math teacher, he took a one year sabbatical from sports and worked as a territory manager for Coca-Cola. After this, he went to Chattanooga Central High School and coached girls softball and basketball. He led the softball team to their first and only state championship, which



shows his caliber as a coach. In 1990, as he looked forward to the education of his two sons, Mr. Woolsey saw MBA as a wonderful place to teach and became part of the faculty. He has coached baseball, football, and basketball in his 21 years here. He won the 1995 state championship in baseball, and for the past seven years has been the intramurals coach. Also, next time you watch a home Vanderbilt basketball game and look at the shot clock, think of Mr. Woolsey because he has been the shot clock operator for 17 years!

His athletic achievements aside, Mr. Woolsey is one of the most experienced math teachers out there. He has been teaching since he got out of college, and

as he coached at these various schools, he was also a math teacher. He has developed many renowned methods of teaching over the years including "the Woolsey method of mixtures." This is his very own method of teaching mixture problems to students, and it is very effective. He



has his own way of grading papers called Lotto 5, which adds a little spice to the monotony of grading. You start out with a 75% and there are 5 star problems. For each star problem you get right, you get five points added to your daily grade. These methods make his class very interesting, and his class has been one of my favorites.

Everyone at MBA is going to miss Mr. Woolsey as the helpful man who coached at seven different schools, served in the US army, and is one of the most avid sports fans I have ever met. Announcements in Mr. Woolsey's advisory are always eventful, and he will be missed by all at MBA. We all hope he does well in his next endeavors as he moves on from MBA. He hopes to find a part time job and says that the thing he will miss most about MBA is working with motivated students who want to do something with their lives. Thanks, Mr. Woolsey. You're the best!



The Cursed World We Live In Part 4

By Locke Jameson

Terrorists watched us closely, and even if a person showed the slightest sign of resisting the brainwashing, they were put under careful surveillance. I had to blend in as much as possible. That was the easy part. All I had to do was attend the local meetings, praise Allah, and condemn the heretics. The hard part was resisting the brainwashing. The preacher was so convincing, and there were times I lost myself, but I had a method of pulling me back to reality. I stole scraps of paper and wrote down my life on them so that I would never forget who I was.

I looked constantly for an exit from this cursed camp but to no avail. In the day all the gates were closed, and at night it was as if every terrorist on the whole goddang planet was guarding the walls. Then one day I saw my way out. I started to notice that occasionally a supply truck would come during the night, and they loaded crates off and on it. If I just could hide in one of those crates I would get a free ticket out of here.

That night I decided I would find out where they kept the crates that they loaded on the trunk. I sneaked out that night. It was drinking night for the guards. I only ventured out on their drinking nights. I found what I was looking for. There was a tent filled to the brim with crates. I was checking

them out when I heard a noise outside. I jumped in the nearest crate and shut the lid. Two guards came in the tent and lifted my crate and put it in the truck. After they finished loading crates, the back was shut, and the truck drove away. When we had been driving for half an hour, I climbed out of my crate and jumped out the back of the truck.

I tumbled and rolled around until I stopped, and I discovered that I was near a small town. It seemed as though I would get out without any opposition. I walked into town, and then I saw Khaatamul Anbiya. He was walking out of an open-air market, holding a cell phone. I darted around the corner and wondered what Khaatamul was doing there. Then a terrible thought crossed my mind—I had escaped the terrorist camp only to land in a town full of terrorists. I skulked around a bit, scouting the market until I heard a shout and looked behind me. A middle-aged Afghan man, wearing a turban, came running at me. Blast! I'd been discovered. I ran into a drugstore and looked around for anything that could be used as a weapon. Then I saw an aisle with soaps, shampoo, and hairspray, and a thought came to my mind.

The terrorist followed me into the store and down the aisle. He looked down as a ruptured can of hairspray rolled to his feet. I picked up a Zippo lighter, flicked the ignition, threw it at the terrorist, and dove into the bathroom as the world around me exploded in flames.

I walked out of the bathroom and looked at the smoldering remains of the drugstore. What was left of the terrorist was a pile of ash. I felt around until I found what I was looking for, a handgun. I put it in my pocket. I felt a bit safer now that I was packing. I heard shouts in the distance. Thanks to the stunt I pulled I was about to become very popular. I looked outside. There were ten men with AKs running to the drugstore. I

was trapped. I cocked the gun. I knew I would probably die but wasn't scared. The only thing going through my head was "payback." I looked out the window aimed and fired.

The first shot went high. Boy, this isn't as easy as it is in video games. The terrorists looked in surprise at the teenager aiming a gun at them and laughed but were cut off when one of them had a new hole in the middle of his forehead. They opened fire. I ducked and saw a grenade lying by the terrorist I torched. I had seen enough movies to know how this thing worked. I pulled the pin and chucked it out the window. The terrorists were blown to bits.

“That’s for my parents,” I said as I ran out of the store. I needed to get a vehicle and get out of town. I discarded the handgun and picked up an AK and a few mags. I ran through the market. Everywhere I turned there were terrorists. Then I saw it. An old pickup truck and believe me that thing looked better than any Ferrari I’ve ever seen. I ran up to it, but stopped when I saw who was in the front seat. Khaatamul Anbiya! I ground my teeth. Here was the man who had ruined everything for me. I screamed with rage and fired my AK until I ran out of ammo. I took the keys off him, pushed his bloody corpse out, put the keys in the ignition, and drove away.

I didn't look back as I drove away leaving the screams of the terrorists in the distance. I looked down at my shaking hands. The rage I had felt earlier subsided. The full weight of my actions hit me. I had taken another's life. I would live with that grief for the rest of my life, but that's the way of the world. The way of the cursed world we live in. The cursed world I live in, I thought as I drove toward the sunset, to my new life, and toward the unknown.

The sponsors and staff of Top of the Hill are proud to reveal our author's true identity and to thank Locke Jameson aka Henry Moxley for four entertaining episodes of his serialized short story.

FEATURES

The Final Restaurant Review

By Kang Huh

For Mother's Day of 2011, my dad and I took my mom to a great dinner at the new restaurant in Nashville called Bombasha, near Hillsboro Village. Bombasha is a Brazilian steakhouse, or a churrascaria. A churrascaria is a system in which a gaucho (Portuguese for "cowboy") walks around the restaurant with a hunk of meat on a giant skewer and an obscenely large knife. When you give him the signal, he walks to you and slices off a desired amount of the meat offered. Some of the meats offered there were a picanha (top sirloin), fraldinha (flank steak), chicken legs, filet mignon (can be served bacon wrapped), chicken breast (served bacon wrapped), linguica (sausage), parmesan pork, and the house specialty, garlic steak. However, this place was special; like many other churrascarias I have been to, there was a place card that you would flip over. It was colored red or green. Red obviously signified "no, thank you," and green signified "more please." Along with their myriad steaks and meats, they also had a salad bar, which was out of the ordinary. It wasn't your typical "Ruby Tuesday's" salad bar; it had a wide selection of different vegetables, cured meats like ham and salami, fruit, and cheeses. It was more like something that would accompany a fancy wine party, not that I would know. However, my mindset was that since the main part of the restaurant's offerings was meat, I would



take a minimal amount of salad. So, I quickly got a plate and got some cheese, greens, and cured meat. Not too much though, as I was saving up for the main show. Then, I flipped the card, and I was ambushed by a million gauchos. "Would you like this, would you like that" was all I could hear for a few minutes. So, I first tried the essential part of any churrascaria, which was their picanha, served medium rare. The meat was perfectly seasoned; a little salty and crispy with rendered fat on the edge. Next, I tried the fraldinha, also served medium rare. I also liked it, except it tasted basically the same as the picanha. Then again, less is more, and sometimes, less tastes better. Other options such as the parmesan pork and filet mignon were delicious. However, I only had a complaint about two of their items: the garlic steak and the linguica. The garlic steak had great aroma to it, and I was looking forward to trying it. However, it was terribly under-seasoned. Yes, the garlic added some flavor, but it lacked salt, and any great steak needs to have salt. However, it was perfectly cooked--points for that. The linguica, however, was just based on my taste buds. It tasted eerily like breakfast sausage, which is OK, but not exactly my favorite kind of meat. It was just too breakfast sausage-y, and it didn't really impress me. However, if you like the taste of Jimmy Dean's breakfast sausages, well, you're in for a treat.

The meat was not the only thing served in the meal. There was also an array of complimentary sides including sautéed bananas, fried yucca, mashed potatoes, black beans, and aromatic

rice. All of these were delicious, especially the yucca. If you're not familiar with yucca, then it is basically a potato, except crispier when fried and fluffier on the inside. Along with the sides were the complimentary pao de queijo, Brazilian "cheese poofs," which I have gotten addicted to, prior to my visit to Bombasha. These are the O'Charley's dinner roll superiors, as they are light, airy, and chewy, with a surprising center of elastic cheese. Then, after the meal was finished, we ordered dessert, a small finishing touch to cap off the meal. The items we ordered were the flan and the chocolate mousse cake. The flan, or custard, was my favorite, because it was creamy, sweet, and just good overall. I really didn't eat the mousse cake, but judging from my mother's and father's positive reactions, it sure looked good.

Overall, this restaurant was a little pricey in terms of the whole meal, costing \$32.90 per person. That may sound expensive, but it is way cheaper than other churrascarias such as Fogo de Chao, a popular chain, which costs at least \$50 per person. It is also even better since the restaurant is all you can eat. So, if you like beef, chicken, and bacon, *James Throckmorton*, then head over to Bombasha. However, I recommend eating a light breakfast and little to no lunch in order to make the trip worthwhile. The attire for the restaurant is dressy-casual, so you can just wear khakis and a short-sleeved polo. Actually, jeans are accepted, too. Just don't walk in looking sloppy. The service is great, despite the number of servers, and the speed in which the gauchos arrive is very fast. However, do not, under any circumstance, flip your card before your waiter serves you. In the end, since the service was great and the food tasted excellent, I give this restaurant a rating of 10/10.

FEATURES

Osama bin Laden

By Sam Carey

On Sunday night, May 1, President Obama interrupted *Celebrity Apprentice* to address the nation about a recent development in the War on Terror. He reported that the world's most wanted terrorist, Osama bin Laden, had been shot and killed earlier that day. This was a momentous event for the United States because we have been fighting Al Qaeda for 10 years with the primary objective of killing bin Laden. As the word spread, crowds gathered to celebrate their victory in places such as Times Square and outside the gates of the White House. These ecstatic people began a chant "U.S.A., U.S.A..." showing their patriotism.

The day before, President Obama ordered that the Navy Seal Team 6 infiltrate a compound that bin Laden was thought to be hiding in. The team flew in on stealth aircraft and crashed inside the compound. Luckily, no one was hurt. The Seals then barged into the complex, fought their way up to the third floor, where they spotted bin Laden within arm's reach of an AK 47 and a Makarov pistol. One of the commandos proceeded to shoot bin Laden once in the left eye and once in the chest. He died instantly. It was estimated that the Seal team was on the ground for approximately

38 minutes and killed Osama in 20. One of the soldiers took a picture of bin Laden as proof of his death. However, President Obama made the executive decision of not releasing the photo to the public because of fear that radicals like bin Laden might strike out if they found that the United States was showing off his body like a prize. If you see any pictures of "a dead bin Laden" on the Internet, it is not he, but a fake.

The burial style and place has also instigated a debate. The United States decided to bury bin Laden in accordance with Islamic burial law. This law states that the body must be buried within 24 hours of death. Another rule is that if the body is buried at sea, a clay weight should be tied around the person's feet so they sink down and are not eaten by ocean creatures. Bin Laden was not buried on land because the U.S. did not want him to have a place where his followers could visit and turn it into a shrine. The United States made sure to follow these rules completely so that no further terrorist attacks would be committed because we mistreated his body. It is not like Obama did this because he liked bin Laden! He did it for the nation's security.

After the shooting of bin Laden in the compound, there were over 100 thumb drives, DVDs, computer disks, 10 computer hard drives, five computers and piles of paper documents

found in the house. Currently, the U.S. is going through all of this terrorist information. Among this plethora of documents was Osama bin Laden's personal diary. In it were his thoughts and views about the U.S. and the rest of the world. This discovery is reassuring for the rest of the world because plans for future attacks have been found, and there are now efforts to stop them before they even happen. It has been estimated that there were as many documents in bin Laden's compound as in a college library.

The death of Osama bin Laden is great news for the whole world and especially the citizens of the United States because the man who killed thousands of innocent people across the world and was responsible for the 9 / 11 terrorist attacks across the country is dead. U.S.A! U.S.A!



FEATURES

THE SPOTLIGHT



Yorgan Petit

By: Chris Byrne

Spotlight is a column intended to feature individuals that are not normally in the “spotlight,” but who make a significant impact or contribution either in the classroom, on campus, in the community, or on the playing field.

This edition we have selected Mr. Yorgan Petit. He is a hardworking member of the Maintenance team. Mr. Petit is often seen on campus very early in the morning and throughout the day, and though he is most often

unaware of our observations, his positive outlook is apparent, and his great attitude – inspiring. He is a determined individual, worthy of our appreciation. I asked Mr. Petit a few questions to help us get to know him.

CB: Where were you born?

YP: Cuba

CB: When did you come to America?

YP: I came to America in 2002.

CB: What was it like to live in Cuba, and do you like it here?

YP: In Cuba I liked the people and the weather, but not the government. I like America more. I like the people, the American way of life, and the economy, but I don’t like football.

CB: When did you start working at MBA?

YP: 2002

CB: What are your main responsibilities?

YP: I work in Maintenance, and try to do whatever is needed.

CB: What do you enjoy most about working at MBA?

YP: I admire the way MBA educates its students, and I am proud to work here.

CB: What are some of your interests outside of work?

YP: I like to spend time with my family, and I like outdoor activities like soccer and lacrosse. I also like to play pool.

Over the past nine years, Mr. Petit has helped to maintain our campus. Though he has not taught us in the classroom, he unknowingly has taught us about life and the importance of a positive attitude. Thank you, Mr. Petit, for your effort and devotion.

The idea for “Spotlight” came from Mr. Coles, the referee who passed away after suffering a fatal heart-related event at the Homecoming football game. Although he was never in the “spotlight,” his role on the sidelines was an important one – keeping the players safe and the game fair. His loss inspired the idea to recognize the contribution of such individuals in a timely fashion.

FEATURES

Mountains Beyond Mountains: Nashville

By: Chris Byrne

Can you imagine how hard it would be if you did not have a home to go to at the end of the school day, no refrigerator to grab a snack from, no place to play, or what if you never had the chance to go to a movie or out to dinner? That is the life of the “poorest of the poor” right here in Nashville, specifically the homeless children and families that temporarily live at Safe

Haven Family Shelter, and they became the focal point of this year’s Junior School service project, Mountains Beyond Mountains – Nashville. The project was inspired by the all school read, *Mountains Beyond Mountains*, author Tracy Kidder’s account of the remarkable work of Paul Farmer, MD and his desire to assist the poor in Haiti.

Nashville’s Safe Haven provides shelter and transitional services that empower Middle Tennessee homeless families with children to achieve lasting self-sufficiency. Those that work at Safe Haven help the parents of the homeless families secure employment, develop budgets, and move from the shelter to transitional homes (apartments). To provide these services and temporary shelter costs money, and therefore, the goal of Mountains Beyond Mountains

–Nashville was to raise enough funds to assist one family move from being homeless to living in their own apartment and capable of paying rent.

To accomplish this goal, the Junior School united their efforts. For weeks the seventh and eighth grade advisories conducted bake sales and filled boxes with needed supplies. In the end we achieved our goal, and in some small way each of us contributed to making the life of one family dramatically better.



Safe Haven Family Shelter
www.safehaven.org

Annual JS Poetry Competition Winners!



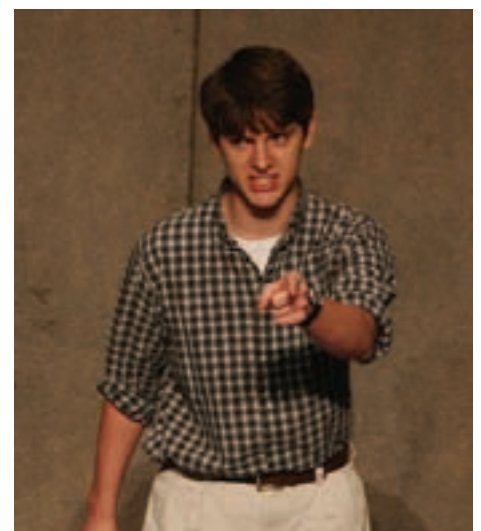
Lawrence Rogers

Seventh-Grade
Second Place



Henry Rogers

Eighth-Grade
First Place - Tie



Jess Darnell

Eighth-Grade
First Place - Tie

ENTERTAINMENT

The Social Networking Craze

By Nathan Sharp

In today's society, there are a number of new ways to stay in touch with friends and family. One of the fastest growing ways is social networking sites such as Twitter, MySpace, and Facebook. Out of these three, Facebook is, without a doubt, the most popular and the fastest growing website. Facebook originally started as a Harvard student website created by Mark Zuckerberg. As soon as it had spread across Harvard, it spread to Stanford and Yale where everybody loved it. In only months, Facebook had become a national student network.



the United States is roughly 300 million. Over half of those people log on daily. If everybody was timed on how long they used Facebook, the total time would be over 700 billion minutes. Needless to say, Facebook is a very popular website with a lot of good things going for it.

Facebook allows people to plan events, chat, stay in touch with old friends, and many other things. This seems good,

Zuckerberg dropped out of Harvard with his partners to pursue his dream of Facebook. In August of 2005, the site changed its name from thefacebook to Facebook, and the rights to the site were purchased. Facebook originally was a site where you had to be invited by an existing member to join. Ever since this rule was dropped, Facebook has been growing at a staggering rate. Right now, there are over 500 million people who are active users on Facebook. To put that figure in perspective, the population of

but is it? Even though Facebook is a social network, people are interacting with their computers, not real people. This is significantly affecting our generation. Some critics are saying that all of the time spent on our computers is destroying our social skills. I disagree with this. As long as you don't get overwhelmed on Facebook and don't spend all of your time on it, it is a useful and fun website.

FAST FIVE: IS IT OVER YET?

By Nicholas Heim

Fast Five. The biggest flop of the year. The fact that you have to spend money on this movie should be a criminal offense. This is the 4th sequel in the franchise. *Fast and Furious*; the beginning of this franchise, was extremely successful. Even *Tokyo Drift* was good. But now, *Fast Five*, is over the top. There are only 20 minutes of car chasing. The rest should be part of the



Oceans Eleven franchise. The simple plot, to break into a bank, hook up the cars to the vault and pull it away. SO A 50-TON VAULT IS GOING TO BE PULLED BY 2 CARS! Yeah, right. A huge element of the story is getting the handprint from the owner of the vault. SERIOUSLY? The saddest part is how they carried out the mission. Not to mention the "team" has no self esteem and literally gives up after one failure. Also, the theme of

this movie is terribly undefined. Is it a comedy or action or does it fall into the terrible movie category? Having the Rock as a villain who turns good was the worst mistake in the movie, and in one fist fight his head is hit so many times that he should be dead. But of course, he gets up and walks away. In another scene, an RPG is fired RIGHT NEXT TO HIM, and he lives. Who is he, Chuck Norris? Ultimately, I give this movie a 1 star out of 10. I am nice enough to give it a 1 only because I am amused by how pathetic this movie is. NO need for a *Fast Six*! Don't worry; I won't go into an extensive summary of this movie, as you will probably fall asleep. I just wanted to let you know how bad this movie is and to tell you all the bad parts. Ha. Ha. Ha. P.S. Forgive me for being so negative.

ENTERTAINMENT

Atlas Shrugged Part I: The Most Awaited Movie of the Year?

By Daniel Bishop

Atlas Shrugged Part I, believed to be one of the most controversial movies in history, appeared in theaters April 15, 2011. The first of a three-part series received an 85% liked audience review via www.rottentomatoes.com. Most awaited movie by some, but others wanted to keep it as a book. Over a thousand pages long, *Atlas Shrugged* by Ayn Rand was first published in 1957. Surprisingly enough, it took 53 years and a single buyer outside of Hollywood to fund the movie rights and the production of this movie. After all this independent funding, all theaters were allowed to show the movie, but some of the theaters refused to show *Atlas Shrugged Part I*. Only three Nashville theaters showed this movie!

The setting is in the future in 2016. America is entering another Great Depression and is looking for an economical save. Taggart Railways, run by brother and sister



closing down. Throughout the movie, important CEOs and businessmen are approached by a mysterious man who tells them about an “Atlantis” where there is no government, and you control yourself. Soon after their meeting with this man, these individuals go missing without a trace except the question, “Who is John Gault?” which is asked repeatedly throughout the book and the movie. This “utopia” appeals to these successful men because the government is corrupt and is too influenced by public opinion. This influence becomes a problem for Dagny Taggart when she tries to pull Taggart Railway out of financial trouble by replacing their old track with the thought-to-be “metal of the future.” This metal created and owned by Rearden Metal was proposed to be 10,000 times stronger than regular metal, but half the weight. A science

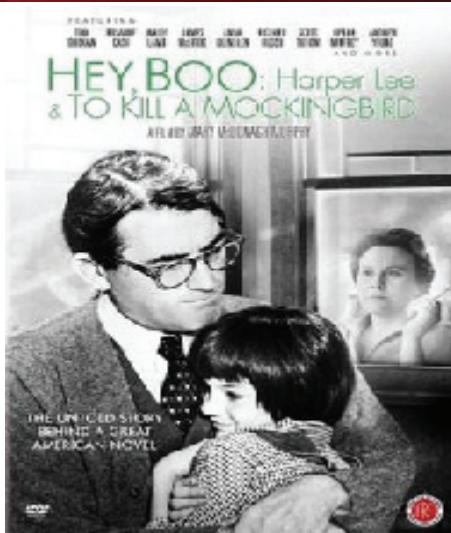
James and Dagny Taggart, is a major railroad company that is dealing with major safety issues and the fear of

institute refutes this claim because it would grant Hank Rearden a monopoly on metal because Rearden metal would be so reliable. Dagny is forced to create her own company called the John Gault Line. This line used Rearden metal replacements for the new powerhouse economic state, Colorado. By replacing the track with Rearden metal, a train went the fastest speed ever in the United States, 250 mph. Many bills were passed in Congress to control and stop the rapid expansion of Rearden Metal. The government is portrayed as evil in this movie. Some people think this is a reflection of our modern day government, too controlling. Soon the newly founded company, the John Gault Line, takes off and is supported by one of the biggest oil companies of that time, Wyatt Oil Company. Dagny and Hank soon find a breakthrough engine that could change the world. Dagny searches for the engineer of this engine but is unsuccessful. This is the question for Part II of the movie series; will they find the creator of this futuristic engine? Part II is scheduled to come to theaters April 15, 2012, and I and many others are excited to see how this story unfolds.



Hank and Dagny discover the breakthrough engine.

ENTERTAINMENT



Hey, Boo

By Benton Dodd

If you are not aware, *To Kill a Mockingbird* is a novel written in 1960 by Harper Lee. This was the only novel she ever wrote. It has grown into one of the most loved American books in existence. It was adapted into a 1962 Oscar-winning film starring Gregory Peck, who won the Academy Award for best actor. Earlier in the semester the 7th grade was lucky enough to be able to read this great book. It is a true American classic, and I loved reading it.

The publication's anniversary occurs July 11, 2011, about a month and a half after school gets out, and a documentary has recently come out entitled *Hey Boo: Harper Lee and To Kill a Mockingbird*. The documentary was very good and includes interviews with Tom Brokaw, Oprah Winfrey, Rosanna Cash, and many others, who are asked what they thought of the book and its impact on them.

The movie gave a few interesting facts about the book and its origins but especially about Harper Lee's background. As far as documentaries go, it kept me paying attention most of the time, but occasionally I found myself longing for the next scene. Also it was less informative in that it was mostly B-list celebrities going on and on about how much they loved the book, and after that, it's not a documentary as much as a visual blog. I give it a 7/10. After watching the documentary I decided to interview one of the 7th grade literature teachers, Robert Sawyer, who is particularly vocal in his support of the novel. These are a few Q&A's. **BD-Benton Dodd.**
MS- Mr. Sawyer

BD-What was your favorite scene from the book?

MS-I actually have two favorite scenes. First is the scene in which the African American gallery in the balcony stands for Atticus as he walks out of the courtroom. Second is the final scene, in which Scout stands on Boo Radley's porch. Even though I have read the book many times, I am still surprised by the power of each scene as I re-read it.

BD-Are you disappointed in Harper Lee's not writing a sequel?

MS-Not at all. I have a hard time imagining a good sequel to the novel. If anything, a sequel might actually detract from the power of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. As with pro athletes, I think there's something to be said for an author knowing when to stop and going out on a high note.

BD-What do you think about recent bannings of the book. Are they fair?

MS-Banning of the book is an unfortunate mix of ignorance and fear. Most of the people who are in favor of banning the book have taken parts of it out of context. I don't think that any serious reading of the novel can lead to the decision that it needs to be banned.

BD-Who is your favorite character?

MS-My favorite character is probably Miss Maudie. She, like Atticus, avoids gossip, prejudice and bigotry. Her positive outlook on life is a great inspiration to the Finch children. In fact, she probably teaches the children as many important lessons as Atticus does.

BD-Did the movie pay the book justice?

MS-It is always hard for a movie to do justice to a book. I think this one comes pretty close. The movie is also different from the book, because it focuses on Atticus more than Scout. This slight change in perspective helps the movie to be different from the book, but still excellent in its own right.

To Kill a Mockingbird is a book which has been around for over 50 years now, but it has remained one of the best loved and most read books of our generation. I hope if you have read it you would agree, and if you haven't, get to a Borders today and grab this great book!

ENTERTAINMENT

Homefront Review

By John Triplett

Homefront is a new game release that came out on March 8 and was made by THQ and Kaos Studios. It is a fairly good game with an interesting storyline and some great multiplayer action.

The first aspect of the game is the campaign. The storyline is set in 2027 when America's military is not the once great machine it used to be, and a unified, strong Korea is occupying America. You are a retired Marine pilot who is just trying to lie low when the Koreans come and take you away. From that point on, members of the resistance led by U.S. citizens break you out, and you are fighting with them. With your friends, you do many interesting missions such as assault on the Koreans, running through suburban neighborhoods, fighting off and evading Koreans, and killing as many Koreans as you can. Along the way, you do things such as run through a camp where mentally insane survivalists are hunting for you and battling it out with the Koreans on the Golden Gate Bridge. Although the campaign and storyline were good, it is just far too short. There are only about six levels, and they can be completed easily in a short amount of time. There are many ways the creators could expand the game because it has such an awkward and abrupt ending. Overall, the campaign is okay, good but short.

The next aspect of the game is the multiplayer. This part was very fun and a great part of the game. This game was like a cross between *Battlefield*



Bad Company 2 and *Modern Warfare 2* although it had some of its own aspects, too. One of the unique aspects of *Homefront* is its battle points system. In *Homefront*, you gain experience points for getting kills, capturing objectives, etc., but you also gain battle points which you use to buy rewards such as an RGP, a Humvee, a light armored tank, a hellfire missile, a helicopter, and more. This makes game play fun and personal. Another unique aspect of the game is its near future warfare, which includes an arsenal of different drones in the multiplayer and campaign. There are a few core game types in this game such as Team Death match, Ground Control, which is a domination-type game for those of you who play *Call of*

Duty, skirmish, and a battle commander mode for all of these. Skirmish is a sized-down switch off between Ground Control and Team Deathmatch, and the battle commander mode makes it so that you become a ranked threat if you kill a certain number of people in a row without dying. If you are a threat, you gain perks based on your rank, and if you kill a threat, you gain extra points for it. Another feature of the multiplayer is that there are a small number of guns so you have to find a gun that you like and stick with it. Some of you may be afraid that the *Homefront* multiplayer will not give you enough game play time. If you are one of these people, I assure you that *Homefront's* 75 levels will keep you busy for a while. I believe that this part of *Homefront* is the best part of the game and is what makes it worth buying.

Overall *Homefront* is a solid game that has a good but short campaign and good multiplayer. I would recommend it to those of you who like the *Battlefield* series of games, and I also recommend it to people who play multiplayer a lot because that is the bulk of the game. Overall I give *Homefront* 8.5 out of 10, so it is a solid but not great game.



ENTERTAINMENT

Call of Duty Black Ops: Escalation

By Matt Miccioli

The new map pack, *Escalation*, for *Black Ops* was released on May 3 for the Xbox and will soon be available for PS3 and PC gamers. In typical Treyarch fashion, the map pack contained four multiplayer and one zombie map. Stockpile, Zoo, Convoy, and Hotel comprised the multiplayer addition, with Call of the Dead being the new zombie map. Treyarch tried to make the maps more interactive and succeeded. I genuinely enjoy all five of the maps and would highly recommend this map pack.

Stockpile takes place somewhere in the ever gloomy USSR. A central warehouse with opening and closing garage doors is the center of the majority of the action. Surrounding the central warehouse are smaller homes and buildings, adding to the industrial feel of the map, but rarely used in combat. This map is very good; however, there is nothing sensational, with it being comparable to WMD. I would recommend almost all game types for this map.

Zoo is a map reminiscent of Carnival from *Modern Warfare 2*. Taking place in an abandoned, dark, and shady zoo, this map offers a large amount of vertical game play and a very linear layout. With a large open area in the center of the map, most players stick to the edges or remain in some of the larger buildings until reaching an objective. The map provides a faster-paced game play for Ground War and



Domination yet still manages to be entertaining for Search and Destroy. Objective game modes are highly recommended for this map, because game modes like Free-for-All and Team Deathmatch do not flow as well and can become very hectic.

Convoy takes place around a crashed U.S. Army supply convoy carrying ICBMs. The central location of the broken convoy is surrounded by numerous smaller buildings set on a lower elevation than the raised highway. The “B” flag in Domination is at the very center location, making control of B imperative in this game mode and making it the center of almost all the action on this map. However, Team Deathmatch and Search and Destroy are also entertaining, with the outer parts of the map coming into play. This map has become my favorite of the map pack, mainly due to the sniping opportunities and less frenetic and more tactical play.

Hotel is the fourth and final multiplayer map, reminiscent of High Rise from *MW2*. A casino and bedrooms set on the roof of a hotel can be accessed in the smallest map of the DLC. Incorporating elevators to take player to levels only accessible by the elevators, Treyarch is sticking to their theme of more interactivity in the maps. However, the map is very hard

to play, with spawn-trapping being the only viable way to succeed. Almost all areas are able to be watched by just a few high places, but the map is not very sniper friendly even with these places due to the very small size. The layout feels overcrowded in certain points yet is totally unused in others. Overall, this is my least favorite of the multiplayer maps.

And lastly, Call of the Dead is the new zombies map, adding many new features and continuing the story line. Taking place on a movie set in Siberia, four new characters to play as are introduced: Sarah Michelle Geller, Danny Trejo, Robert Englund, and Michael Rooker. A new perk, Deadshot Daiquiri, is introduced, negating recoil, auto locking to the head of the zombie you are aiming at, and eliminating the need to steady your scope. Instead of teleporters, zip lines and a “flinger” are introduced, as well as two new weapons: the Scavenger and VR11. The Scavenger is a new sniper rifle which shoots exploding bullets, and the VR11 is the new wonder weapon, turning zombies back into humans. Semtex’s can also be bought off the wall. Instead of Hellhounds or “Monkeys,” players fight off a zombie version of George A. Romero who, when killed, gives the player a random perk. In my opinion, this is the hardest zombie map yet, with Treyarch limiting the areas where players are able to make “zombie trains” and taking away the best gun, the Thundergun. However, it is a nice change from *Ascension*, and the numerous Easter eggs and its huge size make it entertaining.

In conclusion, *Escalation* was a very good expansion pack, with high quality multiplayer maps and a unique zombie map. I give the multiplayer maps a 7.5/10 and Call of the Dead an 8.5/10, giving *Escalation* a solid 8/10.

ENTERTAINMENT



Portal 2 Game Review

By Will Norton

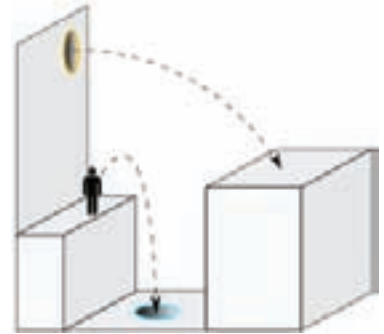
Yes, this is a game rated E10+. But even though you can't kill other

people, no F-bombs, or any other sketchy stuff, that doesn't mean that it is a bad game. I actually liked it very much. I have played *Portal: Still Alive*, which won the 2006 game of the year award, and I also loved every minute of it. The plot for the first game was very interesting. You are one of the tens of thousands of test subjects who are imprisoned in the Aperture Science Laboratories. Your main objective is to escape this maniacal fun house by solving a series of puzzles with your trusty portal gun. The portal gun is a special device that allows you to portal to different places throughout the level. Now, back to the story. Once you have completed the levels you have to face the robot that is running Aperture Science, GLaDOS. (yes, the spelling is very strange.) Through the game she makes many attempts to kill you. After you destroy her in the first game, the entire place blows up, and you are put back into testing.

Portal 2 picks up where

Portal: Still Alive left off. Your plan is simple, escape; the only difference is you have a companion. Wheatly is one of GLaDOS' old personality cores. A personality core is a robotic personality which was planted inside of GLaDOS. Now you have to destroy GLaDOS and escape... again.

This game is available on all platforms and as well as PC and Mac. *Portal 2* received a 10/10 review from *Gameinformer* as well as IGN. This game deserves the 2011 game of the year award. I would recommend *Portal 2* to anyone who likes mind-bending or sci-fi games.



No Need to Fret-- Dr. Luv is Your Best Bet!



Dr. Luv and friends

By Owen Powell

Kaden Freeman asks: Dear Doctor, I have no problem getting girls to hang out with me, but I can't think of anything fun to wear during the summer. What ideas in fashion do you have for me, oh great one, my fashion savior?

Dr. Luv: Oh, Kaden, you child. There are lots of phat clothes that you can wear. You can go the MC Poe way and wear nothing but tennis shoes, high Nike socks, athletic shorts, and t-shirt because

you're too cool to wear nice clothes. However, on the other side, you could go the Dr. Luv, Chatham Dobbs, Trice McCullar way by wearing nice pastels (basically colored Khaki shorts with a nice polo shirt or any nice T with, well, high Nikes and tennis shoes. Most important of all though is **WHENEVER YOU ARE OUTSIDE WEARING SUNGLASSES, CROAKIES MUST BE WORN**. So, Kaden, just wear whatever you feel comfortable in, but those are some of my ideas, and remember, the doctor knows best!

ENTERTAINMENT

A Magical and Revolutionary Device Just Got More Magical

By Hank Thomas

The iPad. Apple's latest phenom. We have all seen it, and if you attend MBA, you may have seen other students (if not yourself) carrying it around. Now what about the iPad 2? I personally have been fortunate enough to obtain one of these technical devices, and it has been within my possession for a long enough length of time for me to share some basic knowledge with you. Yes, you. I am writing this piece of art for the sole purpose of bettering your life as I sip coffee while watching the sun rise on the beach.

The first "generation" (version) iPad was a hit in the consumer market because it was vast enough in size for it to be efficient though at the same time miniscule in size for easy transportation. If one were to place the elder iPad and the iPad 2 side by

side, on their backs, then the difference in depth stands out dominantly. Apple adjusted the iPad's depth by 0.16 inches (from 0.5 to 0.34 inches). Another chief physical adjustment that was made was the weight, which was dropped by 0.17 pounds (from 1.5 to 1.33 pounds). Now, I am sure you are wondering "Why do these tiny numbers matter?" When a device is so small already, it is hard to make it smaller without decreasing its technical performance.

A big question that the multitudes are asking is whether or not the iPad 2 is really noticeably speedier than its elder. I personally am able to say why yes, yes it is. My father has the original iPad, and after working on his iPad for a period of time and then promptly moving and working on my iPad 2, I can see the obvious modification invested in this device. Apple changed the iPad's processor chip from an A4 to an A5, which they claim is "fast, times two." This is a bit of an exaggeration when it actually comes down to it; however, it is still a sizeable difference. The speed is fast enough to be able to switch from watching *Inception* to playing Tiny Wings to reading *Winnie The Pooh* in a matter of seconds (you cannot get much happier than that). When a technical device's processor is upgraded, it usually affects the battery life in a negative manner; fortunately, Apple has not allowed this to take place.

The final and much awaited additions made to the iPad 2 are the front-facing and rear-facing cameras. This improvement has been made in the iPhone and iPod Touch, and now it has been delivered to the iPad. The cameras face opposite directions but can both be used the same ways. The three central applications of the

cameras are Photo Booth, Facetime, and the typical Camera (video and picture). Photo Booth is derived from Apple's renowned Mac's camera division (also named Photo booth) where a user can take themed photos. Themes can range anywhere from being a thermal camera to being a kaleidoscope. The second use, Facetime, is Apple's video-chatting service. Facetime comes preinstalled on all new iPod Touches, iPhones, and iPads; one can also download Facetime on their Mac (but not on their PC). If one has access to a Facetime account (which is free and easy to set up, especially if you already have an Apple i.d.) and a device with Facetime loaded on it, then that person can video chat with whatever friends their heart desires as long as they also have Facetime and an account. The last and most basic primary use of the dual-facing cameras is the Camera itself. With the Camera, one can take photographs and videos, and if one were not able to it would be extremely disappointing. The Camera application is fairly self-explanatory. Both cameras are partially fuzzy (in a negative way, which there are few of when it comes to "fuzzy"), though it is hard to find a clear camera on devices that are simply not a camera. The fancy part of the rear-facing camera is that it is HD; however it is still hazy, just not as much as the front-facing.

The iPad 2 truly is magical as well as revolutionary. Because it is so portable, I take it with me every day to school so that I can quickly pull it out to check my e-mail or assignments and then slip it right back into my backpack where it neither consumes much space nor adds much weight. Do I believe it is worth not eating for a month to afford? Probably not, unless you are into that kind of stuff. But do I believe it is a useful academic as well as entertainment tool? Absolutely yes.



ENTERTAINMENT

Verizon Released the iPhone--So What?

By Cameron Travis

So, here's the story. For a few years AT&T has been the only place to find the technological phenomenon the iPhone. But just this past year, the other cellular powerhouse Verizon announces that it will now carry the iPhone. Now, the most commonly asked question is, "They both have the same great phone, but is there a difference in the service?" I'm here to settle this debate once and for all. Both companies charge you an extra data plan for the use of this fantastic smart phone. But what about

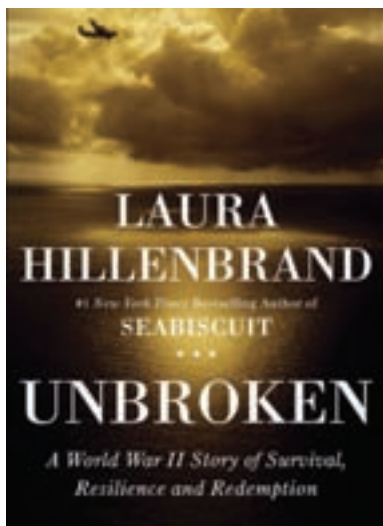


cell phone coverage, face time, apps, music, and all of the other things that make our social lives go round? Well, fret not! The simple answer: Verizon has more coverage in the US, and I can pretty much guarantee that wherever you travel within the US you will be able to call and text on the Verizon service. But let's say you travel abroad a lot for business or pleasure. Then you'll want AT&T. So, you want to call friends and family face-to-face? Well, on both plans a wireless network connection is needed to video call. You're worried that Verizon might not carry the most recent version of Angry Birds? Well, worry no more! Because both Verizon and AT&T have the same great app store with the same great apps. Yes, even your vast collection of iTunes' exclusive songs, movies, and shows will be available on Verizon.

Now that you have all this information, you are ready to make your decision, Verizon or AT&T? But what effect will this have on the rest of the world? The answer: a big one! Loyal Verizon customers who switched to AT&T for the iPhone may switch back! AT&T gets desperate and starts to sell its iPhone for 49 dollars! Both companies rapidly increase their creation of cell towers and wifi zones. Now, the race is on to kick out the latest and greatest updates and attachments for this incredible phone.

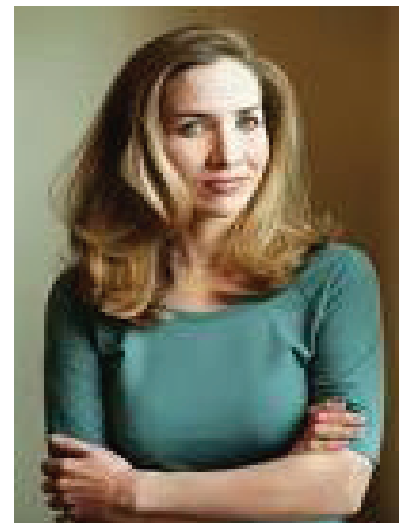
In this rapidly changing and expanding technological age, we could all use some good advice. My best advice to offer is be patient. When the iPhone 5G comes out, and you think, "Oh, I gotta have this new upgrade!" You need to wait because a month later, guess what? Yep, out comes the next greatest smart phone or the next paid update for the iPhone. Since you waited, you are now sittin' pretty on the top of the tech savvy tower! Now, take this info and go forth and stupefy!

The All-School Read for Fall 2011



Unbroken

By
**Laura
Hillenbrand**



BASEBALL

Microbe A Baseball Finishes Strong

By Coach Matt Golenor

The Microbe Baseball Team worked hard and played a very challenging schedule. The squad finished second in the HVAC season and lost in the HVAC tournament semi-finals. Seventh-grader Gray Adelman led the team in victories on the mound. T.J. Jefferson led the team in both on-base percentage and stolen bases. Wilson Flack had the highest batting average of .467 and led the team with 15 RBIs. Logan Taylor led the team in slugging with .878. Joseph McKinney was the defensive leader in assists and chances. With all the talent in the Junior School, the future of Big Red Baseball looks bright!



TJ Jefferson



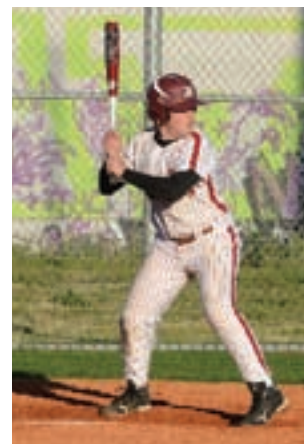
Wilson Flack prepares to catch the throw from third.



Bill Leftwich



Joseph McKinney tags the runner out at third.



George Hunt



John Tipps



*Photos Courtesy
of
Mr. Davis Hunt*

BASEBALL

Microbe B Baseball

By Carter Lovvorn

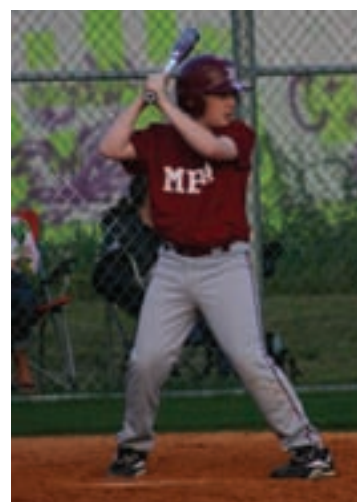
Coach Jacques has led the MBA Microbe B Baseball team to another successful season. The team finished 8-2-0, outscoring opponents 76-30. The Big Red had some key wins against schools like FRA, CPA, and Ensworth. The team was composed of mostly 7th graders, but there were a few 8th graders. The 8th graders were Stephen Sullivan, Devon O'Donnell, and Jack Goodrum. These players were the team leaders and kept the team focused through adversity.

The Microbes began the year on their home turf against Bellevue Middle. The Big Red prevailed in a low scoring affair, 4-0. This game gave the Big Red great confidence that they would carry through the season. The team then faced off against a scrappy Nashville Catholic squad. MBA prevailed in a barnburner, capturing the victory 4-3. David Gaw led the Big Red with multiple key hits to help them win the game. Next, the Big Red battled McCallie in a double header. The Microbes put up a good fight but lost both games. The next game for MBA was a blowout. At this time in the season, MBA showed resilience by handling Ezell-Harding 15-0 in dominant fashion. Jack Goodrum and Canaan Owens combined for the shutout. MBA then defeated



The 2011 Microbe B Baseball Team

Woodland 4-1 in a tight one. Cole Cross, who pitched most of the game, led the Microbes to a 14-0 win against Ensworth. Cole threw a no-hitter (when a pitcher doesn't allow any hits in a game). The Big Red turned it on down the stretch, defeating Bellevue again, then FRA, and CPA to close out the season. Brandon Bennett pitched a stellar game against FRA, leading the Big Red to a 4-2 win. Thanks to Coach Jacques and Coach Grief for an excellent season.



Bronson Bell



Cole Cross



*Sam Rhodes
and
Coach Jacques*



David Gaw

*Photos Courtesy of
Mrs. Suzanne Lovvorn*

TENNIS

Tennis: The 2011 Season

By Kang Huh

This year MBA's Junior School Tennis team performed well. Despite the setback of having no courts of our own, we still managed to come out on top. It all started in mid-to-late February when our coaches, Coach Sean Kinch and Mike Davidson, along with MBA's new head coach, Tom Boysen, held the annual tennis team tryouts. From the tryouts, ten people (as always) made the team, consisting of five returning members: Chris Estes, Wren McFadden, Grant Myers, Alex Dunn, and myself. In addition to our five returning members, we also acquired five new members: Alec Giammalvo, Ethan Rudolph, Rishi Malipeddi, Jay Shackleford, and Louis Brown. With these new members, we hoped to continue MBA's consistent HVAC win

streak. However, as I said above, we had no courts of our own to practice on, as MBA was getting new courts built. We easily solved this dilemma by reserving courts at Elmington Park. Of course, this was not as good as having our own courts, because Elmington Park only had two courts. Despite this problem, we managed to end our season with only one HVAC loss against Ensworth. However, the courts were finished by the time we were two games away from finishing the season, so we did have the joy of hosting HVAC this year.

Speaking of HVAC, we didn't win this year. It was a tough competition among HVAC's powerhouses, Harding, Ensworth, USN, and us. We easily knocked Harding and USN out of the running for the title of HVAC champs. This year the real threat (for once) was Ensworth, the only team we lost to. Their teams were just extremely consistent in their shots, and basically, the matches turned into a survival of the fittest of who could last the longest without messing up. Our team, exhausted by so many grueling points, managed to

take second to Ensworth however, and managed to win one match against them this year. The team that managed to beat Ensworth was the #1 doubles team of Grant Myers and Alex Dunn, whose teamwork could have blown out all of the other teams as well. One notable match was between MBA's #2 Louis Brown against USN's #2. Louis had to play this guy for a couple of hours. Grant and Alex had already finished while Louis was still playing. Nevertheless, Louis stayed strong, and he managed to decisively beat USN's #2. Even after that tiring match, he still went on to play Ensworth's #2, an even better opponent than USN's #2. Louis, tired from the other match (not to mention he was sick), lost. However, I have a feeling he could have won had he played Ensworth's #2 guy first. Anyway, good job, Louis.

So, overall we had an amazing season with only one loss in our regular season. Not only that, we came in 2nd place in HVAC. That's pretty impressive, if you ask me..



The 2011 Microbe Tennis Team

RIFLERY

Rifle State Champs



By Matt Miccioli

The MBA Varsity Rifle Team has claimed its thirteenth State Championship in fifteen years. All three precision squads placed in the top five, and the sporter squad placed in the top ten, concluding a memorable season with some great victories.

MBA's first squad finished first in the entire state; the second squad placed second in state and included the eighth-grader Nathan Sharp; and the third squad placed fifth in the state. The sporter team, predominantly Junior School Students, competed valiantly against the juniors and seniors of the other

teams, but unfortunately did not place in the top five. However, this did not put a damper on a great season in which a team

of six new shooters and one returning ninth grader competed against some of the finest high school shooters in the country.

Both precision and sporter teams began their season in August with conditioning week and soon were ready for the largest high school rifle tournament in the country: the MBA Rifle Classic. As the season progressed, the team hosted several matches at MBA and traveled to Griffin, Georgia, before breaking for Christmas. The second half of the season started with a bang, with matches in St. Louis;



The 2010-2011 MBA Championship Rifle Team!



Anniston, Alabama; and at Siegel High School.

The depth and talent of the team this year were at the highest levels they had ever been, yet great improvement was still made, with several members of the sporter squad moving up to precision. As the season progressed, the pressure intensified from match to match, with numerous personal bests for all of the team members until the state championship victory.

On behalf of the rifle team, I would like to thank our coaches, fans, parents, and everyone else who helped make this a great season.

LACROSSE

8th Grade Lacrosse

By William Richardson

The 8th grade lacrosse season this year was marked with ups and downs, but overall it was a very good experience. After two days of tryouts, the final cuts were made, and 22 eighth graders were selected. Several 7th graders also played, to give them a chance for improvement and experience. The captains leading the team this year were Stephen Ray, William Richardson, and Parks Ball. Despite a late start due to the Caroland Jamboree's cancellation, MBA came out strong with a solid victory, 6-1, over the Franklin Knights. This win was comforting, but not a good indication of the season to come. The next contest was against the Memphis Saints. Despite a great second half showing (4-2, MBA), this game resulted in a 5-9 loss to the Christian Brothers feeder program. The Big Red then played Woodland at home, and it turned out to be a great game. MBA lost a tough game to this team (2-3) and was very disappointed. Coming back after the Atlanta trip, MBA faced two solid opponents in McCallie and MUS. McCallie won, 12-6, against the Big Red. MBA then faced MUS and lost 2-12. As defeating as



Brinton Hoover



Jake Keen

this weekend seemed, MBA took many positives from it, such as a second-half victory against McCallie and allowing only one goal in the second half from MUS. Motivated by the losses of the weekend, the Big Red looked to bounce back against cross-town and perennial rival, Harding Academy. As expected, this game was exciting and down to the wire. With a 3-2 halftime deficit, MBA did not quit. Instead, goals were scored and answered from both sides, until the final score of 6-5. MBA came out on top and avenged last year's 8th grade overtime loss. The next game was against USN. The Big Red came out flat and sluggish from the beginning and never could pick up the slack. The final score reflected this performance, 6-1, in favor of USN. Two days later, the Big Red faced Hendersonville with a short memory, focusing only on the game ahead of them. Hustle, ground ball play, and possession were key factors in MBA's domination of Hendersonville, 8-0.

The McCallie Tournament loomed ahead for the Big Red, as they looked toward the tough competition of the weekend. The Big Red began their Saturday with a bus ride down to Chattanooga for the tournament. The team first faced a very talented club team from North Carolina, who would eventually be the tournament champions. MBA lost the

first game 16-0. The second game, against a team from Roswell, GA, was a little bit closer, but still had the same outcome: an MBA loss, 7-2. The final game of the weekend was against a team from South Carolina. Motivated by the morning's failures, the Big Red won 5-2.

After a somewhat disappointing weekend, MBA looked ahead to the Ensworth game the following Tuesday to close out their season on a high note.

The game began with swapping goals from team to team, and the halftime score was

an even 2-2. Coach Cooper worked his magic at the break, and the Big Red came out fired up. They put on a three unanswered goal streak to go on to win the game, 5-2. This victory was a



William Richardson

great way to close out the season against tough cross-town competition. The team would like to thank Coach McWhirter and Coach Cooper for a great overall season and time with the players.



Blake Solarek

Eighth-grade lacrosse pictures courtesy of Faye Maynard

LACROSSE

7th Grade Lacrosse

By Werner Bradshaw

The seventh-grade lacrosse team had a very good season after a slow start. We faced University School of Nashville for our first game. We had a tough loss, 0-7. Our next game was played against Harding Academy. MBA had a thrilling victory in overtime, 6-5. Our next opponent was the Franklin Knights. We suffered another tough loss, 1-8. We played Webb School next and took a nice victory, 6-3. Our next game was against Woodland Middle School. We won a great victory, 12-2. Our next two games were played on Saturday, April 16 against McCallie and Memphis University School. We played one of our best games of the year against McCallie and won 8-0. We also played a great game against MUS, but still lost 1-9. Our next game was against Hendersonville. We won, 8-3. Our final game was against Ensworth. In another thrilling game, MBA won 4-2. After a slow start and a strong finish, the Big Red ended their season with a good record of 6-3.



The 2011 Seventh-Grade Lacrosse Team

First Row: Alex Hilburn, Ryan Carpenter, Robert Garstin, Sam Smith, Connor Oman, Jack Litchfield, Stephen Richey, Conner Huff.

Second Row: Werner Bradshaw, Jesse Turner, Harrison Wachtler, Bronson Ingram, Max Turner, Adam Young, Nadir Saleh, Robert Chilton, Matt Remke.

Third Row: Neil Richardson, Nick Dreher, William Hall, George Lazenby, Zac Jernigan, Russell McGinn, Alec Whitson, T. Whitton, Daniel Bishop.

Fourth Row: Devon Rundberg, Darrius Southwell, Hudson Coombs, Sam Anderson, Kendal Frantz, Diggs Truitt, John Kelly, K.P. Frazier.

Top Row: Hunt Smith, Jackson Siktberg, Sam Galanter, Ross Bradshaw, Phelps Gambill.

TRACK

SPEED SQUAD

By: Owen Powell

This year's MBA microbe track team was led by veteran head coach Russell, Coach Ferrell, Coach Bailey, Coach Reynolds, Coach Frantz, and Ms. Vaughn. The leadership was what drove the already very gifted team to go from good to great. At the beginning of the season the team knew it had the potential to be great. We all understood



Owen Powell, Will Pearson, and Kaden Freeman

that records were well within our reach and having a perfect season was also a tangible goal. The first few meets were won with little competition. Finally, when we had our first meet with our two main competitors (BA and Ensworth) due to numerous miscues, the Big Red fell and lost the meet by 2 points. Nevertheless, by this time the Big Red had crushed numerous school records such as the 4x1 4x2 4x4, and long jump. This season was far from over because the main goal for every team is to capture the HVAC championship.

Heading into the HVAC, the entire squad felt good, and everyone

understood his role on the team. The meet could not have gone better. The field events were first to take place, and by the end of the day MBA led by .5 points. In the high jump Andrew Porter

and Gabe Angel managed to score points. In discus Owen Powell finished 3rd. In the long jump CJ Sanders finished 1st, and Andrew Porter and Mike Lacey scored points also. In shot put Andrew Porter finished 3rd. In pole vault Kaden Freeman finished 2nd with Sam Carey finishing 3rd.

The next day was the running events. Having three runners in the 100, 110 hurdles, 200, 800, and mile, the Big Red did not cease to impress. The first race of the finals (110m Hurdles)

was finished with a 1,2,3 finish spearheaded by Owen Powell, Will Pearson, and Kaden Freeman not far behind. Owen Powell ran a 16.01 which was a new school record. In the 100m dash Gabe Angel, Mike Lacey, and CJ Sanders all qualified, and CJ and Mike went 1,2 with Sanders running a 11.32. In the 400 meter dash, Owen Powell took 3rd behind 1st place by .1 running a 54.81, and in 7th, Sam Curry also scored points in the 400. In the 200 Sanders and Lacey took 1,2 again with Sanders breaking the HVAC record set the day before by Lacey. The relay teams did fantastic, most notably the 4x1 meter team (Mike Lacey, Gabe Angel, Owen Powell, and CJ Sanders)



The incredible 4x1 team of Michael Lacey, Gabe Angel, CJ Sanders, and Owen Powell

who set a new HVAC record, crushing it by over 1.5 seconds by running a 44.77. (Shout out to Coach Sanders for helping with handoffs.) The 4x8 relay team with Anthony Swenson, William Snow, Jordan Rosdeutcher, and Akeim George won the 4x8. In the mile Greg Quesinberry aka Q-Daddy took 2nd with a blistering 4:56. The 800 meter race was one of the noteworthy races of the entire meet with Will Pearson setting a new MBA school record and within .6 of the HVAC record. Will finished first with a 1:09, and Kaden Freeman finished 2nd just a second behind. Will was on Kaden's hip the entire race and just barely nudged him out in the last 100 meters. After the race Kaden and Will were exchanging hugs (at this time the 3rd place person was just starting to finish) Kaden was not at all sad about his close loss; instead, he was happy for Will's great performance. This shows the kind of character and attitude this team had all year long. Finally, the 4x4 team finished the meet with a 2nd place finish. The team was composed of Andrew Porter, Steve Wood, Derrick, DT15 Tucker, and Owen Powell. This year was unbelievable and better than anyone could have imagined. This class is looking forward to four great years to come.

Photos courtesy of Mrs. Molly Powell

SPORTS



Bruce Pearl: The Sad Truth

By Jack Litchfield

After what many would call a career marked by ups and downs as the head men's basketball coach at the University of Tennessee, Bruce Pearl was fired March 22 following impending recruiting violations. Although many diehard Vol fans wanted to keep Pearl, his transgressions away from the court pushed Athletic Director Mike Hamilton over the edge despite publicly backing him in recent months. Although Pearl revitalized a struggling Tennessee team when he first arrived at the school in 2006, he unfortunately brought more negative than positive attention to the program during this past season.

In a news conference full of tears on September 10, Bruce Pearl admitted to having given NCAA officials false information regarding a suspicious cookout at his house attended by potential high-school

recruits. This incident alone earned him an 8-game suspension in SEC play and a smaller contract from the University of Tennessee. However, new violations have been reported that likely led to Pearl's firing. Illegal contact with a high school junior in Georgia (which he failed to report to Tennessee) just four days after his news conference was among the most substantial violations. Pearl also violated the "player-pass list" standard when he gave his players too many tickets for the March home game against Kentucky. These allegations among other reports involving non-NCAA related matters such as a violation of Tennessee's substance abuse policy by center Brian Williams led Mike Hamilton and Chancellor Jimmy Cheek to say goodbye to Pearl. In the school's statement regarding Pearl's firing, Cheek said, "In September, I said that Bruce Pearl was our coach, and I expected him to be our coach for a long time. I am disappointed with the events that have brought us to this point today, events that I would call 'the cumulative effect of evolving circumstances.'"

Unfortunately the future is not looking bright for Tennessee now. NCAA punishments are still looming for not only men's basketball but also baseball and football. Departing seniors include starter Brian Williams, Melvin Goins, Brentwood Academy alumni Josh Bone, and Pearl's own son Steven Pearl (not that he is a huge loss or anything). Also, recruits such as Memphis point guard Chris Jones are asking to have their commitment to Tennessee dropped. On the bright side, former Missouri State head coach Cuonzo Martin was recently hired to replace Pearl and hopefully for Tennessee to return some class to the program and go back to Tennessee's history of winning. Although it will likely take some time, I am eager to see



how Tennessee's season turns out next year.

No matter your opinion on Bruce Pearl, I think we can all agree that his firing was a sad ending to a successful career (trust me, I am a Kentucky fan). After not making the NCAA tournament for four straight seasons under coach Buzz Peterson, Pearl made Volunteer fans care about men's basketball arguably just as much as the wildly successful women's team. He compiled a 145-61 record and led the team to their first number one ranking ever in 2008 and made it as far as the Elite 8 in the NCAA tournament and losing by one point at that. Despite a bitter ending to Pearl's career in Knoxville, he will leave as one of the most popular coaches ever to set foot on campus.



SPORTS

2011 Tennessee Titans Draft Recap

By Steve Wood

Pick 1 – Jake Locker, QB

Jake Locker is a very good pick for the Titans. At the time of the draft, Rusty Smith was the only quarterback under contract (Titans staff plan to release or trade Vince Young at the start of the 2011 season), so the quarterback position was the biggest hole to fill. Locker is a good fit for the Titans' offense; standing at 6' 3", 231 pounds, he will be a powerful presence on the field. He has a very strong arm, and he should bring much needed leadership to the Titans in coming years. The biggest concern for Locker is his accuracy, but it should improve with time.



Jake Locker

Pick 2 – Akeem Ayers, OLB

Akeem Ayers should bring much-needed depth to the Titans' linebackers. Not including Ayers, the Titans' only linebackers who saw much playing time last year were Stephen Tulloch, Will Witherspoon, and Gerald McRath. Ayers will probably start the season as a back-up for Gerald McRath, but he will likely be rotated in regularly and maybe even become a starter by the end of the season.

Pick 3 – Jurrell Casey, DT

At 300 pounds, Jurrell Casey is now the largest player on the Titans' defensive line. Since Albert Haynesworth left, the Titans have lacked a big man on the defensive line. Casey brings bulk to the line, but with a 5.13 second 40-yard dash, he is not entirely slow. He will probably be rotated in with Sen'Derrick Marks and Jason Jones.

Pick 4 – Colin McCarthy, ILB

Like Akeem Ayers, Colin McCarthy will bring more depth to the Titans' linebacker squad. He will probably not be a starter but should see some playing time behind Stephen Tulluch.

Pick 5 – Jamie Harper, RB

Jamie Harper is a power running back, much heavier than Chris Johnson. It is possible that he could develop a "smash and dash" relationship with Chris Johnson, although Johnson will continue to take the majority of the carries. However, Harper will have to compete with Javon Ringer for the second spot.

Pick 6 – Karl Klug, DE

Karl Klug will have a tough time beating out Jacob Ford, Jason Babin, and William Hayes at defensive end, but he might be able to hold a spot as second or third string.

Pick 7 – Zach Clayton, DT

Zach Clayton will bring another large body to the Titans' defensive line if he is able to retain a spot on the 2011 roster. He will likely be 3rd string behind Sen'Derrick Marks and Marques Douglas, or else he will probably be cut.

Pick 8 – Tommie Campbell, DB

It is not likely that Tommie Campbell will beat out Michael Griffin and Vincent Fuller for a spot playing free-safety, but the Titans may find him useful on special teams.

SPORTS

The NFL Lockout

By Aaron Kaplan

Right now the NFL is in a questionable state, that of a lockout for the 2011 football season. I talked with Kevin Mawae, current president of the NFL Players Association and new member of the MBA faculty. Since the details of the lockout are so complex, Coach Mawae helped to clear things up for everyone to understand. First, the NFL Players Association, operated by DeMaurice Smith and comprised of the players, and the NFL, led by Roger Goodell and comprised of the owners and NFL officials, have debated over multiple points. The main one is the way in which to split the NFL's profit of nine-billion dollars and establish a new Collective Bargaining Agreement. The CBA is an agreement that is made between the players and the NFL to ensure satisfying conditions under which the players work while ensuring satisfaction from the NFL as well. Also involved in the CBA are several issues such as an 18-game season, something that the players believe would hurt their health and careers.

Each side, as in any dispute, has to be willing to make sacrifices to reach a compromise. The players have requested



Roger Goodell and DeMaurice Smith

the owners' financial reports from the past few years to see evidence of the owners' claims that their player expenses are too much. On the other hand, the NFLPA gives owners money to assist in the building of new stadiums and fan-based attractions that would earn more revenue, some of which the players would receive. After unsuccessful negotiations, the NFLPA decertified on the final day of these meetings hours before the official negotiations deadline, midnight of March 11. This decertification means that the NFLPA no longer represents the players, but rather becomes a trade association, in which participation is voluntary. The trade association hires lawyers to negotiate for the members. Each player is then viewed as an independent worker.

Now, many of the NFL players have filed a class-action lawsuit against the NFL for violating anti-trust laws and having the monopoly on the NFL business, being the only ones with the ability to control it. Judge Susan Nelson, who presided over the April 6th hearing, removed the lockout that was put in place by the NFL owners, which prevented the players from using team facilities and associating with the team's management. The NFL, however, was quick to act in appealing her decision to the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis starting

on April 23rd. The judges of this appeals court decided to grant a provisional stay, or a temporary holding of Nelson's decision, until they make their final decision in early June. The lockout was officially put back in place until then, but the NFL is pushing for a more permanent stay and a change in Nelson's original court decision benefiting the players. The NFL is mainly using the argument that the players' decertification was illegal in its context.

Currently, the NFLPA is also going to court to argue against NFL television contract violations that unfairly benefited the NFL more than the players. A decision determining damage repayment to the NFL players is expected in the near future.

An easy way to analyze the NFL situation is to compare it to many employment scenarios. In any job, workers bargain for their desires and can sue for unfair treatment. Although it may not seem this way, the NFL players are being negatively affected in a huge way by the lockout. Players are not making livings for lack of salaries, and many players' careers are put on hold, and their years of playing shortened.

Coach Mawae has recently joined the MBA faculty as a dean of students and varsity football offensive line coach. He takes part in counseling students of all grades and improving their MBA experience. Mawae played for a total sixteen seasons as a center in the NFL, playing for the Seattle Seahawks, New York Jets, and Tennessee Titans throughout his career. He is an eight-time Pro Bowler. Now, he remains associated with the NFL through his role as president of the NFL Players Association. He represents all 1900 players in the NFL and oversees the board of 32 player representatives.

**Information accurate as of May 11, 2011.*



SPORTS

Playoffs in Smashville

By Anthony Swenson

After finishing the NHL regular season at 44-27-11, the Nashville Predators clinched the fifth seed in the Western Conference. The Predators, only having clinched a playoff birth five previous times, had never advanced beyond the first round.

On April 13, 2011, the Predators faced the Anaheim Ducks, starting the NHL playoffs. Coming out as the victor, the Predators won Game 1 by a score of 4-1. On April 22 with the series tied two games apiece, the Predators faced the Ducks in Anaheim. Losing 3-2 with less than a minute to spare, the Preds were in panic mode. Shea Weber silenced the roaring Anaheim crowd with a wrist shot to tie the game at three. Minutes into the overtime period, Jerred Smithson scored to secure the miraculous come-from-behind victory. Game six was played in the Bridgestone Arena in Nashville. The



Kessler and Hornqvist

excited fans gave the Predators whole team an adrenalin rush. Nick Spaling scored in the middle of the third period to give the Predators a lead of 3-2. David Legwand secured the franchise's first series playoff win with an empty net goal primarily due to imPEKKable performances by goaltender Pekka Rinne.

In round 2, the Preds faced the Vancouver Canucks who had the best record in the NHL. After losing a close Game 1 by a score of 1-0,

Nashville was determined to win a game. Ryan Sutter tied the game at 2-2 with less than thirty seconds left. Due to the unbelievable saves by Rinne, Matt Halischuk was able to score in double overtime to win Game 2. Nashville went back to Vancouver after losing two home games. Joel Ward and the Predators reacted well and won a must-win game. On May 9 in

Nashville, the Predators allowed two quick goals to start Game 6. Never being able to make up the deficit, the Nashville Predators were eliminated from the NHL Playoffs. The Predators played their greatest season in franchise history and received a standing ovation after their loss.



w8less

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of the year to rave reviews.*

*Congratulations to
band members (L to R):
Si Deane, William Richardson,
Sara Puryear, Thomas
Marosz, Ryan Barrick,
and Luke Wooten!*

SPORTS

NBA Season Recap and Playoffs Update

By John Triplett

This NBA season has been an exciting and interesting one that has involved many dominant and horrid teams. The same goes for the playoffs with the many surprises and twists this year.

The NBA regular season was one that was very intriguing. A major topic of the season was the Carmelo trade. The Knicks received Carmelo Anthony, Chauncey Billups, Shelden Williams, Anthony Carter, and Renaldo Balkman while the Nuggets received Wilson Chandler, Raymond Felton, Danilo Gallinari, Timofey Mozgov, and a 2014 first round draft pick. Although the Knicks got the great players Carmelo, Chauncey Billups, and others, the trade seems to have worked better for the Nuggets who after losing Carmelo improved a ton with their great point guard tandem of Raymond Felton and Ty Lawson and some other energizing players. The Nuggets got a decent playoff seed, and although they lost in the first round, the future is bright for the Nuggets. The Knicks, however, went into the playoffs not at the top of their game. So far I would say the trade has worked well both ways, but in the long run I believe it is the Nuggets who got the better deal.

Another pressing issue of this season was the rise of some teams



and the falling of others. One team that rose this season was the Bulls. With the acquisition of great forward Carlos Boozer and the improving of MVP Derrick Rose, they dominated all season and were on a hot streak for most of it. The Bulls finished atop the Eastern Conference and went into the playoffs with a ton of momentum. Another team that rose this season was the Heat. After getting LeBron James, Dwayne Wade, and Chris Bosh, and having a shaky start, they played well and into a #2 seed for the playoffs. On the other side of the league, the Cavaliers have been horrid this season after losing LeBron. They have been a dismal team all season and did not even win twenty games.

A few awards that were won this season were by Derrick Rose-MVP, Blake Griffin-Rookie of the Year, and Dwight Howard-Defensive player of the Year. All of these guys definitely deserve these awards, and they are all outstanding players.

Lastly, this year's playoffs so far have been exciting and surprising with many different teams and players. The first round of the playoffs was one with many intriguing matchups and good games. One of the more surprising series in the first round was the Spurs vs. Grizzlies. In this 1 vs. 8 seed matchup, everyone expected the Spurs to dominate, yet it was the other way around. The Grizzlies won the series 4-2, and key player Mark Gasol and

Zach Randolph really stepped it up for this series. Another exciting matchup was the Lakers vs. Hornets. This was interesting because the Lakers were expected to blow right by the Hornets, but the Hornets put up a good fight while Chris Paul carried the team on his back. Despite Chris Paul's amazing effort, the Lakers won the series. In the Eastern Conference, one great series was the Heat vs. the 76ers. Although the Heat won this series 4-1, the 76ers definitely did not give up easy and made the Heat work hard for their victories.

In the 2nd round, there have also been a number of surprises. The Lakers three-peat chances were eliminated after the Mavericks swept them in four games. The Grizzlies also lead their series against the Thunder 2-1. In the Eastern Conference, the Bulls are tied with the Hawks in a surprising series, and the Heat and Celtics are battling it out hard as the Heat lead the series, 2-1. For the Finals, I pick the Mavericks and Celtics, and I choose the Celtics to win 4-3. This year's playoffs have had some great games and matchups to watch.

This season has been a surprising and good one. It has involved many trades, good teams, and breakouts. I certainly think this was one of the better NBA seasons to watch and urge everyone to watch the playoffs, which are sure to be exciting.

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